

# Backgrounder

November 3, 1998

ACS1998-PW-ENV-0001

## **Natural and Open Spaces Study - Final Report**

## **Étude Des Aires Libres et Naturelles - Rapport Finale**

### **Issue**

- the Natural and Open Spaces Study (NOSS) was created as a tool to provide the necessary information needed for rational environmental planning within the City of Ottawa. It is the City's first natural heritage database and will be used by City staff as the technical basis for implementing environmental management policies in the City's Official Plan.
- the Study was released for public review past spring; since then, staff have worked to finalize the report that is now being submitted to Council.

### **What's New**

- staff is recommending that Council approve the NOSS as well as an action plan to implement the Study's results and recommendations.
- the Study targets 57 land areas and 37 watercourse reaches for protection. The 57 NOSS areas represent 727 hectares or about 5.5% of the City's land base.

### **Impact**

- implementation of the Study's recommendations will have an overall positive impact on the environment within the City of Ottawa.
- information from the Study will help the City make informed and consistent land management decisions about unbuilt areas and will be used as a technical basis for proceeding with implementation of many of the environmental policies contemplated by the Official Plan.

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**pager 780-3310**

November 3, 1998

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(File: EW-195-88 / EW-1704-9)

Department of Urban Planning and Public  
Works

Ward/Quartier  
City Wide

- Planning and Economic Development  
Committee / Comité de l'urbanisme et de  
l'expansion économique
- City Council / Conseil municipal

Action/Exécution

## **Natural and Open Spaces Study (NOSS) - Final Report** **Étude Des Aires Libres Et Naturelles - Rapport Finale**

### **Recommendations**

1. That the Natural and Open Spaces Study (November 1998) and associated recommendations be **APPROVED** as the technical document to guide environmental planning decisions in the City of Ottawa.
2. That the NOSS Action Plan be **APPROVED** as the strategic approach to implement Study results and recommendations.



November 9, 1998 (7:10a)

Edward Robinson  
Commissioner of Urban Planning and Public  
Works



November 9, 1998 (8:40a)

Approved by  
John S. Burke  
Chief Administrative Officer

SM:sm

Contact: Deborah Irwin - 244-5300 ext. 1-3000  
Susan Murphy - 244-5300 ext. 1-3365

### **Financial Comment**

City Council approval of the recommendations would be to approve these documents for technical and planning guidance purposes only, with no immediate direct financial impact.

Future reports dealing more specifically with management recommendations and their implementation will include the appropriate financial analysis and comment.



November 6, 1998 (3:48p)

for Mona Monkman  
City Treasurer

CP:cds

## **Executive Report**

### Reasons Behind Recommendations

#### **Recommendation 1**

The Natural and Open Spaces Study (Document 1, on file with the City Clerk) is a technical document which provides the necessary information required for rational environmental planning within the City of Ottawa. Approval of the Study will endorse the document as the City's first natural heritage database. The results of the Study will be used by City Staff as the technical basis for implementing a number of the environmental management policies in the Official Plan. An Executive Summary of the Study is contained in Document 2.

The Natural and Open Spaces Study identified and evaluated 147 NOSS Areas consisting of natural features (woodlands, wetlands, watercourses) and open spaces, as well as 20 Greenway System Corridors, for their environmental and/or social value. Based on the evaluation results, NOSS Areas and Corridors were assigned to one of four protection levels:

1. Protection Areas;
2. Conditional Areas;
3. No Constraint Areas; and,
4. Greenway System Corridors.

A description of these protection levels and associated areas follows. For a visual representation, please refer to Volume 2 - Results and Recommendations, Appendix K - NOSS Area Recommendations Map, of the Final Study.

#### **1. Protection Areas**

The Natural and Open Spaces Study identified significant natural areas and features that presently exist within and outside of the City's Greenway System. These areas were assigned a relative value of high or moderate through the application of evaluation criteria.

The NOS Study recommends the following targets for the protection of natural areas and/or features:

- All Natural Areas ranked high for environmental value (Category 1)
- All woodlands ranked high and moderate for woodland value
- All wetlands ranked high and moderate for wetland value
- All watercourses

Application of this target to NOSS Areas results in 57 NOSS Areas and 37 watercourse reaches being recommended for protection (Document 3). The 57 NOSS Areas represent approximately 727 hectares, or 5.5% of the City's land base. Based on the NOSS results, only 4.4% of the City's land base is represented by woodlands, and 0.87% remains as wetlands. These figures are expected to decrease as irreversible planning approval decisions have been granted for some natural areas. For example, Carson Grove and Assaly Woods have OMB decisions approving development for these areas, which have yet to be initiated.

#### **Supporting Policies & Legislation:**

NOSS recommendations are supported by policies and objectives of both the City of Ottawa's Official Plan and the Official Plan of the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton, as well as the Planning Act and Fisheries Act. The City's Official Plan provides direction to safeguard our remaining natural resources. The Official Plan's Mission Statement recognizes the need to conserve our natural resource base and enhance the natural environment, thereby promoting the health of Ottawa's inhabitants and communities. Chapter 6 - Environmental Management of the Official Plan stipulates objectives and policies which promote environmentally sustainable urban development, environmental quality enhancement, and healthy ecosystems. Policy 6.1.2 of the Strategic Approach states:

*“Enhance the quality of the environment by taking pro-active measures to sustain and enhance natural processes within the City, namely by establishing a system of natural areas and open spaces, increasing the city's urban forest, and by establishing conservation programmes.”*

Forty-four of the 57 NOSS Protection Areas (77%) were found within the Greenway System, as such, Greenway System policies apply, including Section 6.2.1 - Greenway System Objectives which states:

- b) *To ensure the integrity of the natural environment within the Greenway System is maintained and enhanced.*
- f) *To conserve and improve the urban forest within the Greenway System.*

The NOSS recommendations are therefore consistent with the objectives of the Official Plan.

The Region's Official Plan (1997) provides policies on the Natural Environment (Section 5). The Plan supports safeguarding our natural environment system by providing for environmentally sensitive development across the Ottawa-Carleton region that conserves and enhances woodlands, watercourses and ecological linkages, and protects general environmental quality. Section 5.1, Natural Environment Objectives, supports protection of natural features, namely:

1. *To protect significant woodlands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat.*
5. *To increase forest cover in woodlands in Ottawa-Carleton to 30 percent.*
6. *To maintain watercourses in a natural state wherever possible.*

The Region also supports local municipalities in determining significance at a local level, as stated in Policy 5.4.5 - Protection of Other Significant Features:

*“Encourage local municipalities to protect features based on criteria as established in local Official Plans or related policy documents.”*

The NOSS is consistent with the direction provided in the Regional Official Plan.

Natural Heritage Policy 2.3.1 enacted through the Planning Act addresses the provincial interest with respect to Natural Heritage:

*“Natural heritage features and areas will be protected from incompatible development.”*

Natural heritage features and areas are those areas which are important for their environmental and social values as a legacy of the natural landscape of the area. The Policy is to be applied to those features and areas that are considered to be significant. A planning authority may, as part of the identification and evaluation of natural heritage features and areas in their jurisdiction, decide what constitutes significance. The NOSS has identified significant natural areas and features within the City of Ottawa which is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement Implementation Guidelines for Policy 2.3. In addition, the protection of watercourses is consistent with the federal Fisheries Act which requires a no net loss of fisheries habitat.

### **Current Planning Status:**

The probability of protecting these areas is related to a number of factors. The NOSS provides a general indication of the potential to retain these areas based on an analysis of current zoning under the new by-law, intended use, and ownership for each NOSS Area. Protection of 54% of the 57 areas recommended for protection is considered probable.

Fifteen areas are considered less likely to be conserved, while preservation of the remaining 11 areas is unlikely. Assuming Official Plan Greenway System objectives and polices are upheld for those recommended Protection Areas within the Greenway, the probability increases to 80%. It should be noted that the zoning of some NOSS Protection Areas enacted through the new zoning by-law have been appealed. Consequently, this probability analysis may change as related zoning appeals are resolved.

The eleven Areas where protection is considered unlikely reflects prior development approvals. For example, the Alta Vista Corridor which includes Hospital Woods, is designated in the Regional Official Plan as the future Alta Vista Parkway. The protection of Hospital Woods in its entirety may not be possible. However, the NOSS results warrant considering integration of the woodland, wherever possible, into the design of the roadway.

## 2. Conditional Areas

Conditional Areas consist of both natural and open space areas. Some development may be permitted in Conditional Areas providing that the following NOSS targets are met:

- No loss of social function for Areas that ranked high for social values and/or recreational linkage values (7)
- Maximize tree retention of low ranked woodlands (8)
- No net loss of low ranked wetlands (1)

Application of these targets results in sixteen NOSS Areas being assigned a conditional protection level (Document 4). These Conditional Areas comprise approximately 256 hectares or 2% of the City's land base.

### **Supporting Policies and Legislation:**

A number of Official Plan policies address social and recreational linkage values. The Greenway System policies recognize its function in providing leisure resources for public use, specifically the Waterway Corridor, Linkage and Major Open Space designations. Additional Official Plan policies that recognize social and recreational linkage values include:

- to foster individual and social well being by recognizing and promoting the social benefits of leisure resources and activities (*Section 9.1 - Leisure Resources*)
- integrate the conservation of heritage resources into the City's comprehensive planning and environmental design activities (*Section 11.12 - Heritage Resource Management*)
- to protect and improve existing views and vistas of Ottawa's prominent buildings and natural features (*Section 12.10 - Views and Vistas*)

Selective retention of natural features within development is recognized in Official Plan policies, namely:

- City Council shall require, as a condition of development and planning approval, the conservation and enhancement of existing urban forest, wherever possible (*Section 6.9 - Urban Forest, policy 6.9.2 a*).
- To recognize and preserve natural landscape features with symbolic and/or environmental value (*Section 12.4 - Design with Nature, policy 12.4 d*).

The “no net loss of wetland “statement is consistent with the Federal Wetland Policy, and supports the Provincial Wetland Policy Statement as well.

### **Current Planning Status:**

Of the seven Conditional open space Areas, two areas (LeBreton Flats and Clyde Area) have already received planning approval. The remaining five areas would be subject to the “no loss of social function” target should redevelopment be proposed. However, these areas have a high probability of maintaining their current use.

The selective retention target for Conditional natural Areas is feasible through current Official Plan and Planning Act policies. Two of these natural areas, however, form part of City-owned parkland (Lynda Lane Woods and Heatherington Park Woods). It is highly probable that these two woodlands would be retained in their entirety.

### **3. No Constraint Areas**

The NOSS evaluation also identified lands that had limited environmental or social value relative to other areas within the City. These areas fell primarily within NOSS Categories 6 & 7 where no natural features were present. These areas would be subject to City approval should development be proposed, however, no additional conditions or requirements would be stipulated for these areas as a result of NOSS. The seventy-five (75) No Constraint Areas are listed in Document 5. This group represents approximately 348 hectares.

### **4. Greenway System Corridors**

The NOS Study confirmed the importance and value of the Greenway System. This contiguous system of open space and natural features contributes to the ecological and social landscape of the City. The City’s Greenway System is well recognized and policy direction has been set through the Official Plan, Section 6.2. - Greenway System. The City’s goal is to establish the Greenway System as the primary means to sustain and enhance

natural processes in the city, while recognizing its role in providing selected corridors, for utilities, scenic roadways, and for leisure resources.

The NOS Study identified the primary function within the 20 Greenway System Corridors. Nine of the Corridors fell within Category 2, high social and recreational linkage value. These Corridors provide a leisure resource which is highly valued by the public. Six of the Corridors fell within Category 3, high social value and moderate recreational linkage. These corridors are highly utilized by the public, however, their linkage function generally serves the local community rather than the community at large. Five of the 20 Corridors fell within Category 6, moderate social and recreational linkage values. The primary function of these corridors was to service utilities and transportation systems. As such, utilization by the public is lower due to limited access and breaks in continuity (local and regional roads). Document 6 contains the list of Greenway System Corridors and associated scores.

The NOSS results coupled with the direction set through Official Plan objectives and policies, will provide the basis for resolution of the Greenway System. Progress on the Greenway System has been made in the Western, Richmond/Byron, Pinecrest, and Eastern Corridors, and for specific areas within the System such as LeBreton Flats, Carson Grove, Clyde-Merivale, and portions of Sawmill Creek and Rideau River. The Southern and Rideau River Corridors within the Hunt Club area will be resolved through the Hunt Club Neighbourhood Planning Study currently underway.

**Recommendation 2**

The following NOSS Action Plan outlines the strategic approach envisioned to implement the NOSS results and recommendations:

| <b>NOSS ACTION PLAN</b>  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>SHORT TERM</b>  |  |
| 1. Comparison of NOSS Results with New Zoning By-law and Official Plan | Identify inconsistencies between new zoning by-law, NOSS results, and Official Plan policies. Assist Planning Branch with integration of NOSS findings into zoning appeal process. Timeline, January 1999. |
| 2. Protection Area Implementation Strategy                             | Branch to report to Standing Committee with implementation strategy outlining approach to resolve protection areas based on comparison analysis (Item 1). Timeline, June 1999.                             |

| <b>NOSS ACTION PLAN</b>                              |   |
|--|---|
| <b>SHORT TERM</b>                                    |   |
| 3. Municipal Environmental Evaluation Process (MEEP) | Update MEEP to incorporate NOSS results (targets, standards, triggers and management guidelines). Integrate requirement that NOSS evaluations be undertaken for the 8 natural areas where access for NOSS inventories was denied. |
| 4. Other Studies                                     | Integrate NOSS data and recommendations into other City planning related studies (i.e. secondary planning studies, environmental assessment).   |
| <b>MODERATE TO LONG TERM</b>                         |   |
| 5. Protection Area Action Report                     | Branch to bring forward required OP and zoning amendments, based on Item 2 above, for approval. Timeline, November 1999.  |
| 6. Resolution of Greenway System                     | Work with Planning Branch to resolve Greenway System boundaries and zoning with landowners, where necessary. Timeline, January 2001.  |
| 7. Official Plan Review                              | Work with Planning Branch to revise Chapter 6 - Environmental Management to be consistent with NOSS recommendations, and other applicable legislation and policies. Timeline, beginning in 2000.                                  |
| <b>ON-GOING</b>                                      |   |
| 8. Municipal Environmental Evaluation Process        | Branch staff to implement NOSS recommendations through planning process.  |
| 9. Data Management                                   | On-going maintenance of NOSS data.  |

### Environmental Impact

The implementation of the Natural and Open Spaces Study recommendations will have an overall positive impact on the environment within the City of Ottawa.

## Consultation

### Consultation Activities since release of the Draft Report:

The following summarizes the public consultation activities undertaken since May 1, 1998:

1. Release of Draft Study for Public Review The draft NOS Study was completed and presented to Planning and Economic Development Committee on Tuesday, April 28, 1998, as an information report. The draft Study was released for public review for a one month period beginning May 1, 1998. The Study Overview Report and all Study Volumes were available at libraries and community centres City-wide. The Overview Report was available upon request, and also on the City's Web Site.

Advertisements for the review period and a Public Information Session (see #2 below) were placed in the City Information page of the Ottawa Citizen, Le Droit and community newspapers. In addition, the City's Corporate Communication Branch notified the local news media promoting the release of the draft NOS Study. Details of the review period and Public Information Session were advertised through a direct mail out of NOSS Information Bulletin #5 to over 1000 individuals, landowners, and agencies. All comments on the draft Study were to be submitted to the Environmental Management Branch by June 1, 1998.

2. Review by Appointment The Branch extended an invitation to the general public and NOSS Committee members to come to City Hall to review the Data Binders and ask questions to staff. This was advertised in the NOSS Information Bulletin #5, and in the cover page of the NOSS Overview Report.
3. Public Information Session A Public Information Session was held on Tuesday, May 12, 1998, at City Hall from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. The main purpose of the session was to enable interested public including Committee members to ask questions to staff and review the data binders. City Staff made a brief presentation of the draft Study and associated results. A question and answer period followed the presentation. A total of twenty-two people attended the meeting.
4. Binder Review Sessions Two additional review sessions were announced at the meeting to accommodate some individuals who could not attend the May 12<sup>th</sup> session, and to provide the public an opportunity to review the data binders outside business hours. Two people attended the May 20<sup>th</sup> session with one person attending on May 21<sup>st</sup>.
5. Extension of Public Review The Branch accommodated four requests to extend the review period for an additional month, until the beginning of July. The extended review period was advertised in the May 29<sup>th</sup> City Information page of the Ottawa Citizen and Le Droit newspapers. A notice of extension was also inserted in all copies of the Study at libraries and community centres. All comments were to be submitted to the Environmental Management Branch by July 1, 1998, in order to be considered in the final Study report.

6. Notification of Study Finalization NOSS Information Bulletin #6, sent in October, provided notification of the Standing Committee (November 24<sup>th</sup>) and City Council (December 2) meetings where the final NOS Study was to be brought forward for approval. The completion of the Final Study and associated Standing Committee Meeting was also advertised on the City's Information Page of the November 20<sup>th</sup> edition of the Ottawa Citizen and Le Droit Newspapers. The submission was placed on the City's Web Site as well.

### NOSS Comment Record

A total of 19 sets of comments on the NOSS Study Volumes were received from individuals and agencies. A Comment Record was prepared to document the general nature of the question/comment (often paraphrased), the name of the commenter, and to provide a response and an indication of whether concomitant changes to the Study were required. A copy of the Comment Record along with all original sets of comments can be found in NOS Study Volume 4 - Appendix L - Draft Study. The Comment Record does not include responses to comments when:

- the comments were observations;
- the comments were editorial, and the revisions were made;
- there was agreement with the commenter that a response was not required;
- the comment has no direct link to the NOS Study;
- the comment addressed how the Study could have been improved if repeated; and,
- the comments consisted of information to be added to the Data Binders.

A copy of the Comment Record was sent directly to each individual, group, or agency who provided comments during the week of November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Supportive comments

Staff were pleased to have received a number of very positive comments on the NOS Study. The Greenspace Alliance of Canada's Capital described NOSS as "a landmark document that is both comprehensive and systematic, and which provides a wealth of data about Ottawa's urban greenspaces." Further, that "This accomplishment is something that the City, from the Mayor's Office on down, should feel very good about". Others described the Study as "invaluable", "monumental", and a "unique effort". The detail in the Data Binders was described as "amazing". The Branch was commended on numerous occasions, in writing and verbally, upon release of the draft Study.

### Summary of Major Issues and Responses

Virtually all comments received were detailed and highly constructive, and focused on improving the Study. The following indicates the major issues raised and how they were addressed:

1. Report Complexity. Many members of the public indicated that the reports were too complex, hard to follow, and had too much terminology, particularly the Overview Report. Every effort has been made by Branch staff to decrease complexity, eliminate redundancies, and consolidate information. The number of Report Volumes has been decreased from five to four. Volume 1 - Classification System and Volume 2 - Results and Recommendations can now stand alone, and will be substituted for the Overview Report for future distribution to the general public.
2. Inconsistency in Delineating NOSS Area Boundaries. There were some inconsistencies in the types of vegetation communities included within NOSS Areas. These inconsistencies were resolved through revised definitions for the terms “natural area” and “open space area”. Natural areas are now defined as containing primarily woodlands, wetlands, and scrub/thicket vegetation community types. Open space areas are defined as old field meadows, grasslands, and manicured greenspaces. This approach better reflects the actual character and value of the areas identified.
3. Requirement for a map that consolidates NOSS results and recommendations. NOSS recommendations are linked to the results of the evaluations of individual NOSS Areas and Greenway System Corridors. Study results and recommendations were reported as lists in Study Appendices, making interpretation of the Results on a City-wide basis difficult.

In addition to the key map that identifies NOSS Areas, a new map has been created, the NOSS Areas Recommendation Map, that provides a visual representation of the NOSS recommendations as they apply to NOSS Areas City-wide. All results and recommendations have been consolidated in Volume 2 - Results and Recommendations, and new sections have been added to clarify the results.

4. Ability of the feasibility criteria to accurately reflect the current planning status of NOSS Areas and Greenway System Corridors. A number of respondents did not feel that the feasibility scores accurately reflected the current planning status of some areas. Criteria cut-offs and ranges for the Feasibility Criteria were reviewed and revisions were made to provide for a more accurate reflection of the planning status of NOSS Areas.

It was also decided that due to multiple ownership and a diversity of zoning within Greenway System Corridors, that the feasibility criteria should not be applied to the Greenway System Corridors.

5. Implementation of NOSS Recommendations. Many comments were received regarding how NOSS recommendations would be implemented. The NOS Study is a technical document, and did not address implementation. Implementation would be addressed at a later date. An Action Plan has been prepared which outlines a strategic approach to implement the NOS Study recommendations.
6. Landowner disagreement with NOSS recommendations pertaining to their lands. A similar response to that for 5 above, was provided.

## **Disposition**

The Department of Urban Planning and Public Works, Environmental Management Branch to distribute Final NOS Study to NOSS Steering Committee and Peer Review Committee members, community centres, and libraries City-wide.

The Department of Urban Planning and Public Works, Environmental Management Branch and Planning Branch to execute the Action Plan as described in Recommendation 2.

## **List of Supporting Documentation**

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Document 1 | Natural and Open Spaces Study - Final Report (On file with City Clerk) |
| Document 2 | NOSS Executive Summary   |
| Document 3 | List of Protection Areas   |
| Document 4 | List of Conditional Areas  |
| Document 5 | List of No Constraint Areas  |
| Document 6 | List of Greenway System Corridors                                      |

**Part II - Supporting Documentation**

Document 1

NATURAL AND OPEN SPACES STUDY - ON FILE WITH CITY CLERK

NOSS FINAL REPORTS:

VOLUME 1 - THE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

VOLUME 2 - RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

VOLUME 3 - MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

VOLUME 4 - PUBLIC CONSULTATION

## NATURAL AND OPEN SPACES STUDY - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY Document 2

### Introduction

The City of Ottawa's Environmental Management Branch has identified a number of initiatives to implement the environmental management objectives of the City of Ottawa Official Plan. One of these initiatives is the Natural and Open Spaces Study (NOSS). The Study consists of the following general components:

1. Classification System
2. Results
3. Analysis of Results
4. Recommendations
5. Management Guidelines
6. Public Consultation

The following provides a brief description of these components.

#### 1. Classification System

In the past, decisions regarding natural and open spaces were made on a site/area specific basis without the benefit of knowing their significance relative to other similar natural areas or open spaces in the City. The NOSS Classification System was created to: 1) identify areas to be studied that have environmental and/or social value; 2) provide a systematic and consistent approach for determining the environmental and social value of an area; and 3) to create a hierarchical framework which groups areas of similar value together.

Figure 1 illustrates the Classification System.

The Classification System consists of the following three main components: the **Site Selection Process**; the **Evaluation Criteria Sets**; and, the **Classification Framework**.

##### 1.1 Site Selection Process

Not all lands within the City could be evaluated as part of this Study. One of the first Study tasks was to define and identify the areas within the City that would be studied. All properties within the City's Greenway System were automatically included. It was recognized that a number of natural and open space areas exist outside of the Greenway System. As such, a detailed systematic Site Selection Process was created specifically to ensure that lands demonstrating some defined level of environmental and social value were identified. Sites selected to be evaluated through this process are called **NOSS Sites**, and were comprised of natural areas or open spaces. The NOSS Site Selection Process is depicted in Figure 2.

Figure 1 - Classification System

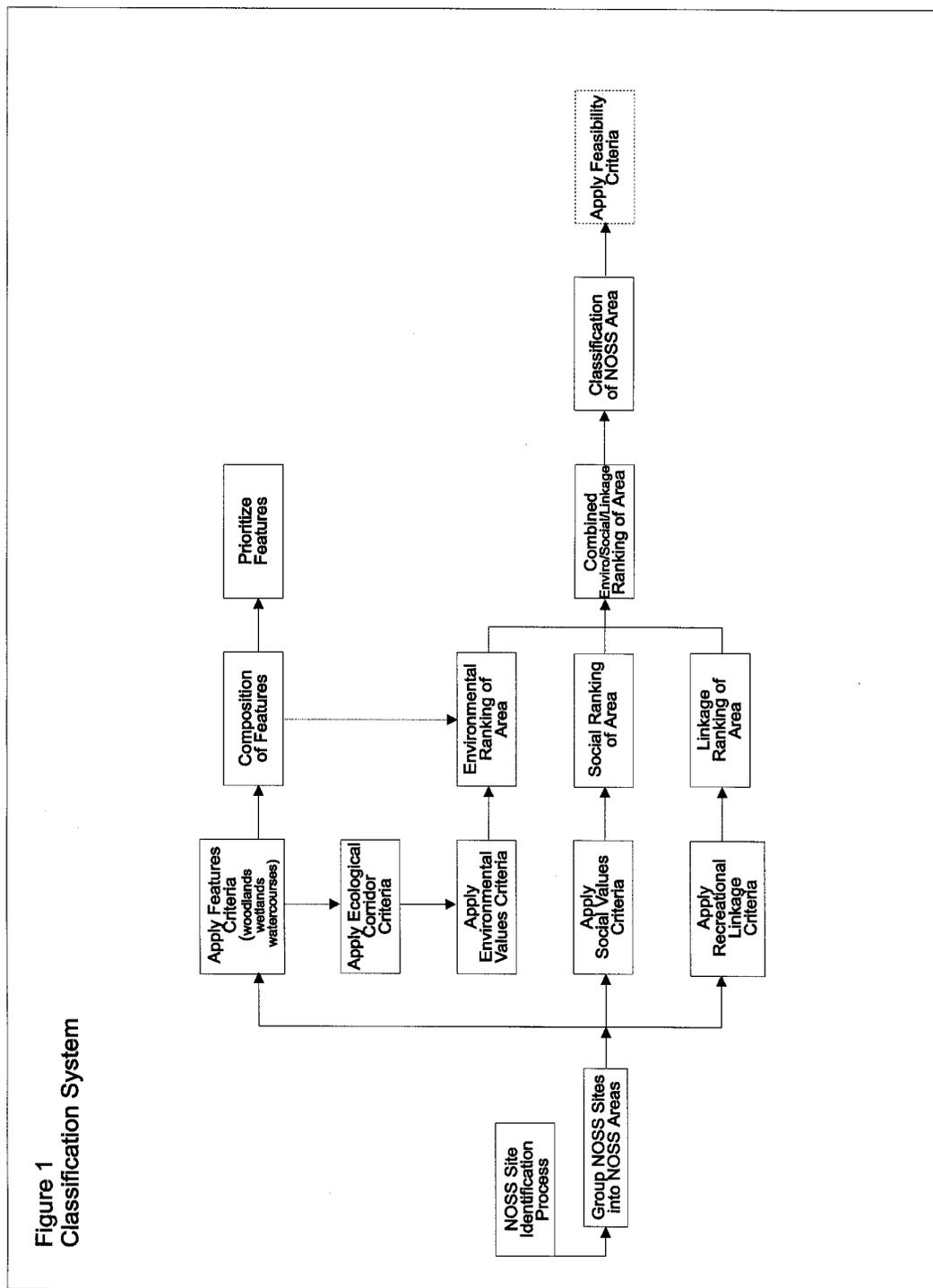
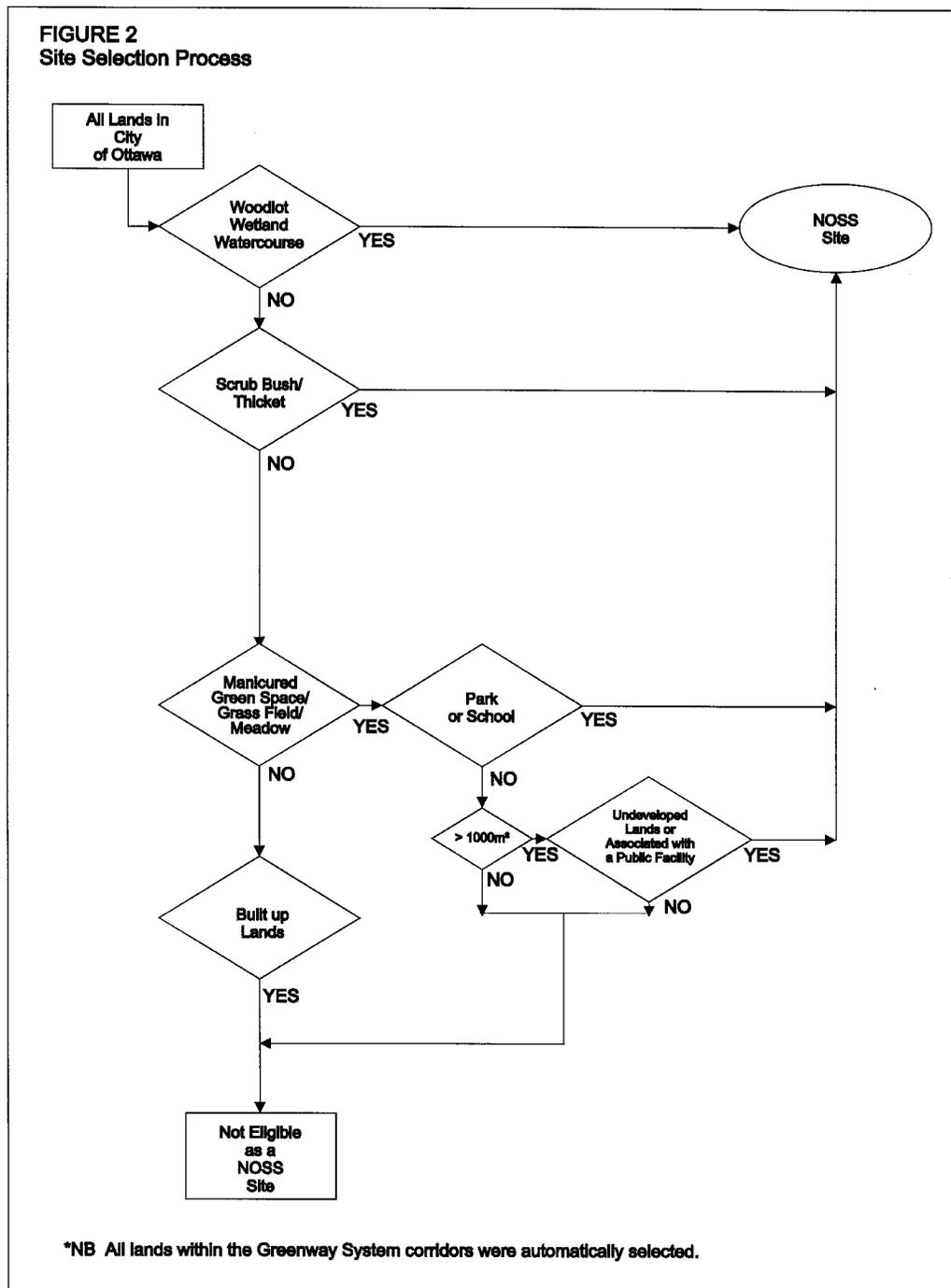


Figure 1  
Classification System

Figure 2 - Site Selection Process



A total of 681 NOSS Sites were identified through the Site Selection Process. Further examination of these areas revealed that many of these NOSS Sites are in close proximity to each other or abutting each other. In cases where sites were contiguous, it is likely that they are part of a larger functional unit from an ecological or social perspective. These sites were grouped together to form **NOSS Areas**. Those sites which are isolated remained so, and became NOSS Areas on their own. This resulted in 428 NOSS Areas being identified for evaluation purposes.

Field visits were necessary to collect information on both biological and social attributes of each NOSS Area. Written permission was requested from each property owner(s) of NOSS Areas and Greenway System Corridors prior to accessing them. Only 8 natural areas were not evaluated due to landowner resistance to permitting access. A standardized data record was used to document all environmental and social data collected in the field. All natural areas were visited throughout various dates in the early spring to late summer of 1996, and late spring of 1997, depending on when permission to access the property was granted. Visits to open space areas were conducted to confirm the presence and location of facilities, pathways, viewshed features, and to record how the areas were being used and by whom.

## 1.2 Evaluation Criteria Sets

The Evaluation Criteria Sets were developed specifically for the NOSS to evaluate environmental, ecological, and social significance of the NOSS Areas and Greenway System Corridors within a local urban context. Relative values of NOSS Areas were established through the application of three **Evaluation Criteria Sets**, consisting of seven evaluation criteria tables which are described below.

**Features Criteria** were developed to evaluate individual environmental features consisting of woodlots, wetlands, and watercourses.

**Ecological Corridors Criteria** were developed to assess ecological corridor function. Ecological Corridors are defined as elongated, naturally vegetated areas that link natural features within a NOSS Area.

**Area Values Criteria** consist of three evaluation criteria tables: Environmental Value, Social Value, and Recreational Linkage Value. These criteria tables were developed to evaluate general environmental values and social values associated with the areas and Corridors, as well as to determine if an area functions as a recreational linkage.

Application of the three Evaluation Criteria Sets resulted in the NOSS Areas and Greenway System Corridors being ranked based on a scoring system. Four possible scores for each criterion within a criteria set were identified: HIGH, MODERATE, LOW, and NOT REPRESENTED/NOT APPLICABLE. A maximum and minimum

score for each criteria table can be established, depending on how many evaluation criteria are in each table. When scoring each criterion:

- for each level of **HIGH**, a numerical score of **3** was assigned;
- for each level of **MODERATE**, a numerical score of **2** was assigned;
- for each level of **LOW**, a numerical score of **1** was assigned; and
- where the characteristic was **NOT REPRESENTED** or **NOT APPLICABLE**, a numerical score of **0** was assigned.

The total score obtained by a NOSS Area or Corridor for each evaluation criteria set was determined by simply adding the scores of each of the individual criterion within the evaluation table for each criteria set. The numerical scores and ranges for each evaluation table are depicted in Table 1 below.

**TABLE 1 NUMERICAL SCORES AND RANGES FOR EVALUATION TABLES**

| <b>Criteria Set</b>     | <b>Evaluation</b>    | <b>Number of Criteria</b> | <b>Potential Range of Scores</b> | <b>Low</b> | <b>Moderate</b> | <b>High</b> |
|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 1. Features             | Woodlands            | 9                         | 0 - 27                           | 1 - 9      | 10 - 18         | 19 - 27     |
|                         | Wetlands             | 8                         | 0 - 24                           | 1 - 8      | 9 - 16          | 17 - 24     |
|                         | Watercourses         | 7                         | 0 - 21                           | 1 - 7      | 8 - 14          | 15 - 21     |
| 2. Ecological Corridors | Ecological Corridors | 6                         | 0 - 18                           | 1 - 6      | 7 - 12          | 13 - 18     |
| 3. Area Values          | Environmental Values | 9                         | 0 - 27                           | 1 - 9      | 10 - 18         | 19 - 27     |
|                         | Social Values        | 10                        | 0 - 30                           | 1 - 10     | 11 - 20         | 21 - 30     |
|                         | Linkage Values       | 5                         | 0 - 15                           | 1 - 9      | 10 - 12         | 13 - 15     |

### **1.3 Classification Framework**

Based on the results of criteria application, each NOSS Area and Greenway System Corridor were grouped into one of 7 categories within the **Classification Framework** that best describes it's primary value, or combination of values. Individual environmental features also were evaluated outside of the Classification Framework, such that all woodlands in the City were evaluated relative to each other, as well as wetlands and watercourses. Table 2 below presents the Classification Framework.

**TABLE 2 NOSS CLASSIFICATION FRAMEWORK**

| <b>Category</b> | <b>Areas Identified</b>  | <b>Characteristics</b>  |
|-----------------|--|---|
| Category 1      | Score HIGH under Environmental Values  | Highest ranked Areas from an environmental perspective  |
| Category 2      | Score HIGH for both Social and Recreational Linkage Values   | Highest ranked Areas based on social and recreational values, natural environment characteristics are secondary |
| Category 3      | Score HIGH for Social Values   | Areas which are important from a social perspective<br>Actively used and valued open spaces                     |
| Category 4      | Score HIGH for Recreational Linkage Values   | Important recreational links with some social or environmental value  |
| Category 5      | Score MODERATE for Environmental and MODERATE or LOW for Social Values and Recreational Linkage Values | Areas of secondary environmental importance, with some or little social and/or recreational linkage value       |
| Category 6      | Score LOW for Environmental Value and score MODERATE for Social and/or Recreational Linkage Values     | Moderate social and/or recreational value that may have some environmental value                                |
| Category 7      | Score LOW for Environmental, Social and Recreational Linkage Values                                    | Areas have little or no environmental, social, or recreational value  |
| P               | Is an existing stand-alone municipal, provincial, or federal park                                      | Areas have known social value and have not been evaluated   |
| S               | Is an existing stand-alone school operated by one of the four publicly funded school boards            | Areas have known social value and have not been evaluated   |
| PS              | Is an Area which is comprised of park(s) and school(s) which are abutting                              | Areas have known social value and have not been evaluated   |

Once an area was classified, the **Feasibility Criteria** were applied, which assessed the probability of retaining the current values of each Area, as identified through the Classification Framework. Feasibility was based on ownership (public versus private), current zoning, and the owner's intended or current use of the area. Greenway System Corridors were not subject to the Feasibility Criteria as it proved problematic due to the multiple landowners and zoning designations within anyone Corridor.

## 2.0 Results

20 Greenway System Corridors were identified and evaluated. Of the 428 NOSS Areas identified, 167 were actually evaluated. Of the remaining 261 areas, 246 were not evaluated because they were comprised of parks and/or schools. It was recognized that parks and schools have known social value and, as such, do not need to be evaluated to determine their social importance. The remaining 15 NOSS Areas were either: grouped with a Corridor for their evaluation (7); or permission to access the property was denied (8).

### 2.1 Features Evaluation Summary

The Features Criteria Set is comprised of watercourse, wetland, and woodland evaluation criteria tables. The following summarizes the results of the features evaluation.

#### Watercourses

The NOSS focused on the smaller creek systems that feed into the Ottawa River, Rideau River, and the Rideau Canal. **17 watercourses** were identified within the City of Ottawa which were further broken down into **37 reaches or segments**. These reaches ranged from short single reach tributaries of the Rideau River, Rideau Canal or Ottawa River, to fairly extensive systems. Many of the watercourses studied are degraded due to urbanization. Water quality, erosion, sedimentation, and lack of riparian vegetation are common problems to many of these watercourses.

Based on the cutoffs, 4 watercourse reaches scored HIGH, 30 reaches scored MODERATE, and 3 reaches scored LOW. The four reaches that score in the HIGH category are within Sawmill Creek, Ramsey Creek, Airbase Woods Creek, and a tributary to the Rideau River.

#### Wetlands

**Wetlands** were found in **27 natural areas** consisting of **35 wetland units**. Wetlands ranged in size from 0.02 to 28.87 hectares, totaling approximately 115 hectares. The average wetland size is 3.3 hectares. Only 12 wetlands are greater than 2.0 hectares with 8 of the remaining 15 wetlands less than 0.5 hectares. Eight wetlands scored HIGH, 18 scored MODERATE, and 1 scored LOW. Carson Grove (21/28) and Britannia/Mud Lake (20/28) were the top ranking wetland areas.

### Woodlands

**Woodlands** were found in **61 natural areas** consisting of **109 individual woodland units**. Woodland units within the City range in size from 0.01 to 46.34 hectares, totaling approximately 506 hectares. The average woodland size was approximately 4.6 hectares. 77% of the woodlands in the City are greater than 2 hectares with 52% greater than 6 hectares. Only 16 mature stands (i.e. greater than 99 years old) were found. The majority of woodlands (42, or 69%) were ranked MODERATE and 11 (18 %) of the woodlands ranked HIGH with the remaining 8 (13%) woodland areas ranked LOW. The highest ranked woodlands were Airbase Woods and Britannia/Mud Lake (24/27).

## 2.2 Ecological Corridors Evaluation Summary

**Twelve NOSS Areas** contained **ecological corridors**. Six of these areas ranked HIGH, including Britannia Woods/Mud Lake, Conroy Swamp, Chaudiere Rapids, Carson Grove, Rockcliffe Park Cliffs, and Hog's Back Woods. The remaining areas ranked MODERATE.

## 2.3 Area Values Evaluation Summary

### Environmental Value

Of the 147 NOSS Areas identified for evaluation purposes, 66 of these Areas were considered predominantly natural in composition. As such, these **66 NOSS Areas** were evaluated for **environmental value**. The applicable features and ecological corridor evaluations were integrated into the environmental values evaluation such that an overall assessment of the entire ecological unit was conducted. The highest scoring area, Britannia Woods/Mud Lake, scored in the highest level for all criteria, other than a moderate score for rare vegetation communities. A total of 15 NOSS Areas (23%) fell into the HIGH range, whereas 24 (36%) scored MODERATE, and 27 (41%) scored LOW.

### Social Value

All **147 NOSS Areas** were evaluated for **social value**. A total of 24 NOSS Areas and 15 Corridors scored HIGH, 74 NOSS Areas and 5 Corridors scored MODERATE, with the remaining 49 NOSS Areas scored LOW. Of the 24 NOSS Areas that scored HIGH, 17 of 24 (71%) represented natural areas. The Arboretum scored the highest total score (28/30) of all areas. The Rideau River Corridor scored the highest total score (29/30) for the Greenway System Corridors.

### Recreational Linkage Value

Of the 147 NOSS Areas evaluated, **78** (or 53%) provided a **recreational linkage function**. All of the Greenway System Corridors performed a recreational linkage function. Seven NOSS Areas and 9 Corridors scored HIGH, 57 NOSS Areas and the remaining 11 Corridors scored MODERATE, and the remaining NOSS Areas scoring LOW for recreational linkage function.

#### **2.4 Ranking NOSS Areas and Corridors**

Scores obtained from the application of the three sets of criteria (seven criteria tables in all) resulted in the classification of NOSS Areas and Corridors. A summary of the total number of Areas and Corridors that fell within each Category of the Classification Framework, and break down by NOSS Area type (natural, open space, parks/schools, Corridors) is provided in the Table 3 below.

**TABLE 3 SUMMARY OF CATEGORIES FOR NOSS AREAS & CORRIDORS**

| Category | Description   | Total      | Natural Areas | Open Space | Park or School | Corridor  |
|----------|---|------------|---------------|------------|----------------|-----------|
| 1        | High Environmental  | 15         | 15            | 0          | 0              | 0         |
| 2        | High Social and Recreational Linkage                            | 14         | 2             | 3          | 0              | 9         |
| 3        | High Social   | 17         | 7             | 4          | 0              | 6         |
| 4        | High Recreational Linkage                                       | 2          | 2             | 0          | 0              | 0         |
| 5        | Moderate Environmental  | 17         | 17            | 0          | 0              | 0         |
| 6        | Low Environmental, Moderate/Low Social and Recreational Linkage | 54         | 20            | 29         | 0              | 5         |
| 7        | Low Environmental, Social and Recreational Linkage              | 48         | 3             | 45         | 0              | 0         |
|          | <b>Sub-total</b>  | <b>167</b> | <b>66</b>     | <b>82</b>  | <b>0</b>       | <b>20</b> |
| P        | Parks   | 103        | 0             | 0          | 103            | 0         |
| PS       | Parks and School  | 34         | 0             | 0          | 34             | 0         |

|              |                       |            |           |           |            |           |
|--------------|-----------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| S            | School                | 44         | 0         | 0         | 44         | 0         |
| A            | Grouped with Corridor | 72         | 0         | 7         | 65         | 0         |
| D            | Access Denied         | 8          | 8         | 0         | 0          | 0         |
| <b>Total</b> |                       | <b>428</b> | <b>74</b> | <b>89</b> | <b>246</b> | <b>20</b> |

### 3.0 Analysis of Results

The Classification Framework provides an organizational structure which groups areas of similar value together, allowing for areas that have high environmental and/or social value to be differentiated from those that have limited value. The City's Official Plan provides direction with regard to the urban environment. Policy 6.1, Environmental Management Strategic Approach, provides objectives to guide Ottawa toward environmentally sustainable urban development, namely:

*Enhance the quality of the environment by taking pro-active measures to sustain and enhance natural processes within the City, namely, by establishing a system of natural areas and open spaces, increasing the city's urban forest, and by establishing conservation programmes.*

#### 3.1 Targets

An analysis of the Study results was undertaken to provide further direction on retention levels required to meet Official Plan objectives. This was accomplished through the establishment of targets. Targets are defined for this Study as realistic goals for the retention of natural and open space areas as well as natural features. Based on representation of natural features and open space within the City, and the values established through the NOSS Classification System, the following targets are recommended.

**Targets for wetlands** are recommended as:

- No further loss of wetlands that are ranked HIGH and MODERATE for wetland features criteria (26 of 27, or 96%).
- No net loss of wetlands ranked LOW (1 of 27, or 4%).

**Targets for woodlands** are recommended as:

- No further loss of woodlands ranked HIGH and MODERATE for the woodland features criteria (representing 11 and 42 of the 61 woodlands respectively, totaling 87%).
- Maximize tree retention of LOW ranked woodlands (8 of 61, or 13%).

**Targets for Watercourses** are recommended as:

- No further loss of fisheries habitat within watercourses.

**Target for open space areas** are recommended as:

- No loss of social function for NOSS Areas ranked HIGH for social values and/or recreational linkage values.

#### **4.0 Recommendations**

Based on the Classification Framework and application of NOSS Targets, the 167 evaluated NOSS Areas and Corridors could be generally assigned to one of four protection levels:

- Protection Areas;
- Conditional Areas;
- No Constraint Areas; and,
- Greenway System Corridors.

A brief description follows.

##### **4.1 Protection Areas**

The Protection Areas were defined as:

- All Natural Areas that ranked high for environmental value (Category 1)
- All woodlands that ranked high and moderate for woodland value
- All wetlands that ranked high and moderate for wetland value
- All watercourses

The application of these targets to NOSS Areas resulted in 57 NOSS Areas and the 37 watercourse reaches being recommended for protection. The majority of the recommended Protection Areas fall within Categories 1 & 5, high and moderate environmental value. The Protection Areas represent approximately 727 hectares or 5.5% of the City's land base.

##### **4.2 Conditional Areas**

Conditional Areas consist of both natural and open space areas comprising 256 hectares or 2% of the City's land base. Some development may be permitted in Conditional Areas providing that it is consistent with the following NOSS targets:

- No loss of social function for Areas that ranked HIGH for social values and/or recreational linkage values (7)

- Maximize tree retention of LOW ranked woodlands (8)
- No net loss of LOW ranked wetlands (1)

Sixteen (16) natural and open space NOSS Areas were grouped as Conditional Areas.

### 4.3 No Constraint Areas

The NOSS evaluation also identified lands that had limited environmental or social value relative to other areas within the City. No Constraint Areas were defined as all NOSS open space areas that fell within Categories 6 & 7, and one natural area (3504) that contained no woodland or wetland features. This resulted in a total of 75 NOSS Areas that have no development constraints applicable to the Study.

### 4.4 Greenway System Corridors

The NOS Study confirmed the importance and value of the Greenway System. This contiguous system of open space and natural features contributes to the ecological and social landscape of the City. The City's Greenway System is well recognized and policy direction has been set through the Official Plan, Section 6.2. - Greenway System. The City's goal is to establish the Greenway System as the primary means to sustain and enhance natural processes in the city, while recognizing its role in providing selected corridors, for utilities, scenic roadways, and for leisure resources.

The NOS Study identified the primary function within the 20 Greenway System Corridors. The NOSS results coupled with the direction set through Official Plan objectives and policies, will provide the basis for resolution of the Greenway System.

## 5.0 Management Guidelines

The Management Guidelines provide direction on maintaining and improving conditions of natural features from both an activity and operational perspective. The Guidelines consist of the following components:

- Standards
- Triggers
- Management Recommendations

A brief description follows.

### 5.1 Standards

Standards refer to dimensional guidelines for the retention or enhancement of specific natural features, and are to be interpreted within site specific circumstances.

**Setbacks** of development from the boundary of **Protection Areas** are recommended

as follows. However, these setbacks are to be used as a guideline only, open to negotiations, with some opportunity for interpretation under specific site and proposal circumstances.

- 30 meter setback from provincially significant wetlands;
- 15 meter setback from non-provincially significant wetlands;
- 1.5 x crown radius, and/or 10 meter setback from the dripline of woodlands;
- 30 meter setback from cold/cool watercourses; and,
- 15 meter setback from warm or intermittent watercourses.

## 5.2 Triggers

**Triggers** to undertake an environmental impact study (i.e. MEER) for development adjacent to **Protection Areas** are recommended as:

- 120 meters from the boundaries of provincially significant wetlands;
- 50 meters from the boundary of all other wetlands;
- 50 meters from the boundary of all other features or until hard surfacing is encountered.

## 5.3 Management Recommendations

A list of management recommendations aimed at maintaining and enhancing identified values and functions was compiled. Recommendations that may conceivably apply to each of the NOSS Areas and Corridors, pending land owner agreement, were identified. Management recommendations address access, signage, fencing, naturalization, and maintenance.

## 6.0 Public Consultation

Public consultation activities undertaken through the Study were designed to meet two main objectives: 1) to receive data, particularly social data, to be used in the NOSS evaluations, and 2) to obtain feedback on the Study approach, methodology and findings. Public consultation events included a Public Open House to introduce the Study, a series of City-wide community mapping workshops, Drop-in Centers at shopping malls, and a series of discussion workshops on the Study process. Technical input and guidance to the Study process was also provided by a Steering Committee and Peer Review Committee.

The draft Study was released on May 1, 1998, for an extended two month review period. The Study was available at all City community centres, libraries, and City Hall. Copies of the Overview Report were available upon request. All comments received were reviewed and, where appropriate, integrated into the Final Report.

## Protection Areas

## Document 3

| <b>NOSS ID NO.</b> | <b>Area Name</b>                | <b>Environmental Value</b> | <b>Social Value</b> | <b>Recreational Linkage</b> | <b>Category</b> | <b>Feasibility Value</b> |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 0101               | Britannia Woods/Mud Lake        | H                          | H                   | M                           | 1               | H                        |
| 0102               | Britannia Bay Conservation Area | M                          | H                   | M                           | 3               | H                        |
| 0201               | Elmhurst Woods                  | M                          | H                   | M                           | 3               | H                        |
| 0202               | Pinecrest Woods                 | L                          | M                   | M                           | 6               | H                        |
| 0401               | Deschênes Rapids                | M                          | M                   | M                           | 5               | H                        |
| 0701               | Champlain Bridge Islands        | H                          | H                   | M                           | 1               | H                        |
| 0702               | Champlain Bridge Woods          | M                          | H                   | M                           | 2               | H                        |
| 0703               | Hampton Woods                   | M                          | H                   | M                           | 3               | H                        |
| 0801               | Carlington Woods                | M                          | H                   | M                           | 3               | H                        |
| 0901               | Chaudière Rapids                | H                          | H                   | M                           | 1               | H                        |
| 0902               | Lemieux Island                  | H                          | H                   | L                           | 1               | H                        |
| 1101               | Arboretum                       | L                          | H                   | H                           | 2               | H                        |
| 1102               | Central Experimental Farm Woods | L                          | M                   | L                           | 6               | H                        |
| 1201               | Prince of Wales Woods           | H                          | H                   | M                           | 1               | M                        |
| 1301               | Victoria Island                 | M                          | M                   | L                           | 5               | H                        |
| 1601               | Brown's Inlet                   | M                          | M                   | M                           | 5               | H                        |
| 1603               | Patterson's Creek               | L                          | M                   | H                           | 4               | H                        |
| 1701               | Brewer Park Pond                | L                          | H                   | M                           | 3               | H                        |
| 1702               | Carleton University Woodlot     | L                          | M                   | L                           | 6               | M                        |
| 2202               | Rockcliffe Park Cliffs          | H                          | H                   | H                           | 1               | H                        |
| 2203               | Rockcliffe Park Woods           | M                          | M                   | H                           | 4               | H                        |
| 2301               | Aviation Parkway Woods          | M                          | M                   | M                           | 5               | M                        |
| 2302               | Beechwood Cemetery              | M                          | M                   | L                           | 5               | L                        |
| 2401               | Airbase Woods                   | H                          | M                   | M                           | 1               | H                        |

| 2402               | Montfort Hospital Woods      | M                           | H                    | M                           | 3               | M                        |
|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 2405               | NRC Woods North              | M                           | M                    | M                           | 5               | M                        |
| 2501               | Assaly Woods                 | M                           | M                    | M                           | 5               | L                        |
| 2502               | Bathgate Park Woods          | L                           | H                    | M                           | 3               | H                        |
| 2503               | Carson Grove                 | H                           | M                    | H                           | 1               | M                        |
| 2504               | La Cite Collegiale Woods     | L                           | M                    | L                           | 6               | M                        |
| 2506               | NRC Woods South              | L                           | M                    | M                           | 6               | M                        |
| 2701               | Leopold Woodlot              | M                           | M                    | L                           | 5               | H                        |
| <b>NOSS ID NO.</b> | <b>Area Name</b>             | <b>Environmenta I Value</b> | <b>Socia I Value</b> | <b>Recreational Linkage</b> | <b>Category</b> | <b>Feasibility Value</b> |
| 2702               | Hog's Back Woods             | H                           | H                    | M                           | 1               | H                        |
| 2703               | Riverside Woods              | L                           | M                    | M                           | 6               | M                        |
| 2704               | Vincent Massey Woods         | H                           | H                    | L                           | 1               | H                        |
| 2801               | Uplands/Riverside Park Woods | H                           | H                    | M                           | 1               | H                        |
| 2901               | CNR Line                     | M                           | M                    | M                           | 5               | M                        |
| 2902               | OCEPSB Woods                 | L                           | M                    | M                           | 6               | M                        |
| 2904               | McCarthy Woods               | H                           | M                    | M                           | 1               | M                        |
| 2905               | Paul Landry Park Woods       | L                           | M                    | M                           | 6               | H                        |
| 2907               | Mountain Crescent Woods      | L                           | M                    | L                           | 6               | L                        |
| 2908               | Uplands Park Woodlot         | L                           | M                    | M                           | 6               | M                        |
| 3001               | CFB Ottawa Woods             | M                           | M                    | M                           | 5               | M                        |
| 3101               | Billings Bridge Islands      | H                           | M                    | L                           | 1               | H                        |
| 3102               | Sawmill Creek Woods          | H                           | M                    | M                           | 1               | M                        |
| 3103               | RA Centre Woods              | L                           | M                    | L                           | 6               | M                        |

|      |                         |   |   |   |   |   |
|------|-------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3201 | Rideau River Park Woods | M | M | M | 5 | H |
| 3302 | Pleasant Park Woods     | M | M | M | 5 | H |
| 3402 | Jim Durrell Woods       | L | M | M | 6 | H |
| 3403 | Conroy Woods            | M | M | L | 5 | M |
| 3502 | Conroy Swamp            | H | M | M | 1 | L |
| 3601 | Coronation Park Woods   | M | M | M | 5 | H |
| 3701 | DND Rehab Woods         | M | M | M | 5 | M |
| 3702 | Hospital Woods          | L | M | M | 6 | M |
| 4201 | Ramsey Creek Woods      | M | M | M | 5 | M |
| 4202 | Old Innes Road Woods    | L | L | L | 7 | L |
| 4301 | Hawthorne Marsh         | M | M | L | 5 | M |

| <b>NOSS ID NO.</b> | <b>NOSS AREA NAME</b>     | <b>WATERCOURSE REACH</b>           | <b>RANK</b> |
|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| 0101               | Britannia Woods/Mud Lake  | Pinecrest Creek Reach WC17         | M           |
| 0202               | Pinecrest Woods           | Pinecrest Creek Reach WC16         | M           |
| 1101               | Arboretum                 | Rideau Canal Tributary WC08        | M           |
| 1101               | Arboretum                 | Rideau Canal Tributary WC09        | L           |
| 1201               | Prince of Wales Woods     | Rideau River Tributary WC05        | M           |
| 1320               | LeBreton Flats            | LeBreton Flats Aqueduct Reach WC11 | L           |
| 1320               | LeBreton Flats            | LeBreton Flats Aqueduct Reach WC12 | M           |
| 1603               | Patterson's Creek         | Patterson Creek WC35               | L           |
| 2401               | Airbase Woods             | Airbase Woods Creek WC37           | H           |
| 2802               | Uplands/Riverside Woodlot | Rideau River Tributary WC01        | H           |
| 2907               | Mountain Crescent Woods   | Sawmill Creek Reach WC19           | M           |
| 2920               | Bowesville/Hunt Club Area | Hunt Club Creek WC03               | M           |
| 3001               | CFB Ottawa Woods          | Hunt Club Creek WC04               | M           |
| 3102               | Sawmill Creek Woods       | Sawmill Creek Reach WC20           | M           |
| 3102               | Sawmill Creek Woods       | Sawmill Creek Reach WC21           | M           |
| 3102               | Sawmill Creek Woods       | Sawmill Creek Reach WC22           | M           |
| 3102               | Sawmill Creek Woods       | Sawmill Creek Reach WC23           | H           |
| 3102               | Sawmill Creek Woods       | Sawmill Creek Reach WC24           | M           |
| 3102               | Sawmill Creek Woods       | Sawmill Creek Reach WC25           | M           |
| 3502               | Conroy Swamp              | McEwen Creek Reach WC26            | M           |
| 3504               | Wedgewood Bush            | McEwen Creek Reach WC27            | M           |
| 3701               | DND Rehab Woods           | Moses Pepper Drain WC36            | M           |
| 4201               | Ramsey Creek Woods        | Ramsey Creek Reach WC32            | H           |
| 4201               | Ramsey Creek Woods        | Ramsey Creek Reach WC33            | M           |

|                    |  |                                   |             |
|--------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 4301               | Hawthorne Marsh                        | Mather Award Ditch Tributary WC30 | M           |
| 4320               | Ages Drive Area                        | Mather Award Ditch                | M           |
| 4440               | Thurston Drive Area                    | Mather Award Ditch Tributary WC31 | M           |
| 4520               | Conroy Road Area                       | McEwen Creek Reach WC28           | M           |
| 5001               | Ottawa River West Corridor             | Ottawa River Tributary WC10       | L           |
| 5002               | Pinecrest Creek Corridor               | Pinecrest Creek Reach WC15        | M           |
| <b>NOSS ID NO.</b> | <b>NOSS AREA NAME</b>                  | <b>WATERCOURSE REACH</b>          | <b>RANK</b> |
| 5002               | Pinecrest Creek Corridor               | Pinecrest Creek Reach WC14        | M           |
| 5002               | Pinecrest Creek Corridor               | Pinecrest Creek Reach WC13        | M           |
| 5008               | Central Experimental Farm Corridor     | Experimental Farm Ditch WC34      | M           |
| 5011               | Rideau River Corridor                  | Rideau River Tributary WC06       | M           |
| 5011               | Rideau River Corridor                  | Rideau River Tributary WC07       | M           |
| 5013               | Sawmill Creek/Airport Parkway Corridor | Sawmill Creek Reach WC18          | M           |
| 5020               | Ottawa River East Corridor             | Ottawa River Tributary WC10       | M           |

| <b>Applicable NOSS Target: Maximize Tree Retention for Woodlands Ranked LOW<br/>No Net Loss of Wetlands Ranked LOW</b>              |                                |                            |                     |                             |                 |                          |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| <b>NOSS ID #</b>  | <b>Area Name</b>               | <b>Environmental Value</b> | <b>Social Value</b> | <b>Recreational Linkage</b> | <b>Category</b> | <b>Feasibility Value</b> |
| 2506  | NRC Woods South (wetland only) | L                          | M                   | M                           | 6               | M                        |
| 2601  | Presland Hydro Corridor        | L                          | M                   | L                           | 6               | M                        |
| 2602  | Presland Park Woods            | L                          | M                   | -                           | 6               | M                        |
| 2903  | Hunt Club Woods                | L                          | M                   | M                           | 6               | L                        |
| 3301  | Lynda Lane Woods               | L                          | M                   | -                           | 6               | H                        |
| 3401  | Heatherington Park Woods       | L                          | M                   | M                           | 6               | H                        |
| 3505  | Lorry Greenberg Bush           | L                          | M                   | -                           | 6               | L                        |
| 4203  | Sheffield Road Woods           | L                          | L                   | -                           | 7               | L                        |
| 4502  | Swansea Woods                  | L                          | M                   | -                           | 6               | M                        |
| <b>Applicable NOSS Target: No Loss of Social Function for those Areas Ranked HIGH for Social and/or Recreational Linkage Values</b> |                                |                            |                     |                             |                 |                          |
| <b>NOSS ID #</b>  | <b>Area Name</b>               | <b>Environmental Value</b> | <b>Social Value</b> | <b>Recreational Linkage</b> | <b>Category</b> | <b>Feasibility Value</b> |
| 0140  | Britannia Beach Park           | -                          | H                   | H                           | 2               | H                        |
| 0621  | Clyde Area                     | -                          | H                   | H                           | 2               | L                        |
| 1320  | LeBreton Flats                 | -                          | H                   | H                           | 2               | M                        |
| 1328  | Parliament Hill Area           | -                          | H                   | -                           | 3               | H                        |
| 1332  | Regional Headquarters          | -                          | H                   | M                           | 3               | H                        |
| 1520  | Canadian Museum of Nature      | -                          | H                   | M                           | 3               | H                        |
| 3322  | Billings Estate                | -                          | H                   | -                           | 3               | H                        |

## No Constraint Areas

## Document 5

| <b>NOSS ID #</b> | <b>NOSS Area Name</b>          | <b>Environmental Value</b> | <b>Social Value</b> | <b>Recreational Linkage</b> | <b>Category</b> | <b>Feasibility Value</b> |
|------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 0121             | Bradford Area                  |                            | M                   | L                           | 6               | L                        |
| 0225             | Dumaurier/Grenon Avenue Area   |                            | M                   | M                           | 6               | L                        |
| 0421             | Pooler Ave. Corridor Area      |                            | M                   | M                           | 6               | L                        |
| 0720             | Lanark Area                    |                            | M                   | L                           | 6               | L                        |
| 1321             | Bronson Avenue Area            |                            | M                   | M                           | 6               | H                        |
| 1322             | Laurier Avenue Area            |                            | M                   | L                           | 6               | M                        |
| 1323             | Albert Street Area             |                            | M                   | M                           | 6               | M                        |
| 1324             | Kent Street Area               |                            | M                   | L                           | 6               | L                        |
| 1327             | National Library Area          |                            | M                   | M                           | 6               | M                        |
| 1521             | Catherine Street Area          |                            | M                   | L                           | 6               | L                        |
| 1720             | Bronson Place Area             |                            | M                   | L                           | 6               | H                        |
| 1820             | Sussex Drive Area              |                            | M                   | M                           | 6               | L                        |
| 2020             | Tabaret Hall Area              |                            | M                   | M                           | 6               | M                        |
| 2324             | Notre Dame Cemetery            |                            | M                   | L                           | 6               | L                        |
| 2420             | Greenhill Way Area             |                            | M                   | L                           | 6               | M                        |
| 2422             | Montreal/Foxview Area          |                            | L                   | M                           | 6               | L                        |
| 2520             | Montreal/Church Area           |                            | M                   | L                           | 6               | L                        |
| 2920             | Bowesville/Hunt Club Area      |                            | M                   | L                           | 6               | M                        |
| 2926             | McCarthy Area                  |                            | M                   | M                           | 6               | L                        |
| 3120             | Gilles Area                    |                            | M                   | M                           | 6               | M                        |
| 3121             | Riverside Drive/ Billings Area |                            | M                   | L                           | 6               | M                        |
| 3320             | Lamira Street Area             |                            | M                   | M                           | 6               | L                        |
| 3421             | Walkley Road Area              |                            | M                   | M                           | 6               | L                        |
| 3504             | Wedgewood Bush                 | L                          | M                   | M                           | 6               | L                        |
| 3721             | Smyth Area West                |                            | M                   | L                           | 6               | L                        |
| 3722             | Smyth Area East                |                            | M                   | M                           | 6               | L                        |

|      |                                |  |   |   |          |   |
|------|--------------------------------|--|---|---|----------|---|
| 3922 | Hawthorne/Hunt Club Area       |  | M | L | <b>6</b> | L |
| 4220 | Museum of Science & Technology |  | M | M | <b>6</b> | M |
| 4320 | Legacy Road Area               |  | M | L | <b>6</b> | L |

| <b>NOSS ID #</b> | <b>NOSS Area Name</b>               | <b>Environmental Value</b> | <b>Social Value</b> | <b>Recreational Linkage</b> | <b>Category</b> | <b>Feasibility Value</b> |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 4520             | Conroy Road Area                    |                            | M                   | M                           | 6               | L                        |
| 0222             | Pinecrest Area                      |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 0223             | Queensview Drive Area               |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 0422             | Aylen Ave. Area                     |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 0520             | Aaron Area                          |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 0521             | Fairlawn Ave. Area                  |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 0820             | Mayview Area                        |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 0921             | Carruthers Area                     |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 1221             | Normandy South Area                 |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 1223             | Prince of Wales Drive West Area     |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 1224             | Fisher Ave. Area                    |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 1331             | Clarence Street Area                |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | M                        |
| 1920             | Beausoleil Area                     |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 1921             | Rideau Library Area                 |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | M                        |
| 2121             | Greenfield Avenue Area              |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | M                        |
| 2320             | Mart Circle Area                    |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | M                        |
| 2322             | Rockledge Area                      |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 2421             | Blackthorne Avenue Area             |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 2521             | Wilson Street Area                  |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 2620             | Coventry Road Area                  |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 2720             | Riverside Drive/<br>Revelstoke Area |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 2722             | Brookfield Road Area                |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 2723             | Colman Area                         |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 3321             | Chalmers Area                       |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | M                        |
| 3520             | Bank and Hunt Club Area             |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 3522             | Hunt Club Road Area<br>1506-1520    |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |

|      |                          |  |   |   |   |   |
|------|--------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|
| 3525 | Hunt Club/Conroy Area    |  | L | L | 7 | L |
| 3526 | Hunt Club/Albion Area    |  | L | L | 7 | L |
| 3924 | Hawthorne Road Area 3500 |  | L | L | 7 | L |
| 4020 | Industrial Avenue Area   |  | L | L | 7 | L |
| 4120 | St. Laurent/CNR Area     |  | L | L | 7 | L |
| 4121 | Triole/St. Laurent Area  |  | L | L | 7 | L |
| 4123 | Comstock Area 1660       |  | L | L | 7 | L |
| 4222 | Bantree Street Area      |  | L | L | 7 | L |
| 4223 | Edinburgh Place Area     |  | L | L | 7 | L |

| <b>NOSS ID #</b> | <b>NOSS Area Name</b>        | <b>Environmental Value</b> | <b>Social Value</b> | <b>Recreational Linkage</b> | <b>Category</b> | <b>Feasibility Value</b> |
|------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 4224             | Bantree/Sheffield Area       |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 4225             | Blackwell Street Area        |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 4227             | Leeds Avenue Area<br>1360    |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 4228             | Sheffield/Leeds Area         |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 4230             | Lancaster Road Area          |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 4324             | Walkley Road/Russell Area    |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 4326             | Ridge Road Area              |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 4420             | Don Reid Drive Area          |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 4426             | Walkley/Conroy Area          |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 4522             | Stevenage Drive Area<br>2495 |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | L                        |
| 4524             | Hawthorne Road Area<br>3190  |                            | L                   | L                           | 7               | M                        |

| <b>NOS<br/>S<br/>ID #</b> | <b>Corridor Name</b>                          | <b>Environment<br/>al<br/>Value</b> | <b>Social<br/>Value</b> | <b>Recreational<br/>Linkage</b> | <b>Category</b> | <b>Feasibility<br/>Value</b> |
|---------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| 5001                      | Ottawa River West Corridor                    | -                                   | H                       | H                               | 2               | -                            |
| 5002                      | Pinecrest Creek Corridor                      | -                                   | H                       | H                               | 2               | -                            |
| 5003                      | Western Corridor                              | -                                   | H                       | H                               | 2               | -                            |
| 5010                      | Rideau Canal Corridor                         | -                                   | H                       | H                               | 2               | -                            |
| 5011                      | Rideau River Corridor                         | -                                   | H                       | H                               | 2               | -                            |
| 5012                      | Southern Hydro Corridor                       | -                                   | H                       | H                               | 2               | -                            |
| 5016                      | Alta Vista Corridor                           | -                                   | H                       | H                               | 2               | -                            |
| 5020                      | Ottawa River East Corridor                    | -                                   | H                       | H                               | 2               | -                            |
| 5004                      | Richmond/Byron Corridor                       | -                                   | H                       | M                               | 3               | -                            |
| 5007                      | Island Park Drive Corridor                    | -                                   | H                       | M                               | 3               | -                            |
| 5013                      | Sawmill Creek/<br>Airport Parkway<br>Corridor | -                                   | H                       | M                               | 3               | -                            |
| 5014                      | Greenboro Corridor                            | -                                   | H                       | M                               | 3               | -                            |
| 5015                      | Eastern Corridor                              | -                                   | H                       | M                               | 3               | -                            |
| 5019                      | Aviation Parkway Corridor                     | -                                   | H                       | M                               | 3               | -                            |
| 5005                      | Scott Street Corridor                         | -                                   | M                       | M                               | 6               | -                            |
| 5006                      | North-South Hydro Corridor                    | -                                   | M                       | M                               | 6               | -                            |
| 5009                      | Champagne Corridor                            | -                                   | M                       | M                               | 6               | -                            |
| 5017                      | West-East Hydro Corridor                      | -                                   | M                       | M                               | 6               | -                            |
| 5018                      | South-North Hydro Corridor                    | -                                   | M                       | M                               | 6               | -                            |

