

Chapter 7: Action Plan

Figure 8, The Action Plan (chart) reflects the consensus priorities recommended by the Planning Commission. The Commission took into consideration the priorities recommended by the Environmental Advisory Board, Open Space Board, Parks and Recreation Committee and recommendations made by members of the public who attended the Open House held in May 2010.

All recommendations described in Chapter 6 were placed into one of five priority categories: Immediate; High (to be completed in 1 to 3 years); Medium (to be completed in 3 to 5 years); Low (to be completed beyond a five-year horizon); and On-going. Most of the recommendations related to public safety, were placed in the 'Immediate' category. Alerting potential developers of potential environmental hazards, is also in this category, as is the creation/restoration of riparian buffer landscaping; the Planning Commission feels strongly that the latter action is necessary to re-establish the ecological balance in the riverfront area. Recommendations in the 'High' priority category include all actions that would result in enhanced access to the River; improving access to the Schuylkill is the first goal of this Plan. The Planning Commission feels that the remaining recommendations in this plan are not as important to implement until improved access is achieved.

With the foregoing being said, it is nevertheless important to note that priorities will change from time to time based on a number of factors. The priorities should be reviewed annually by the Township in conjunction with the budgeting process. With inevitable changes in Township officials and Township policies, priorities will change. Opportunities, particularly funding opportunities, can result in a recommended action being pursued sooner than initially anticipated. Cost, in general, is a factor and some actions which are less capital-intensive may get completed prior to some higher priority costly actions. Finally, certain actions are only logical to pursue when others have preceded them. (For example, building restroom facilities is only logical after trails and other measures are implemented which result in increased activity along the River.) In general, the priorities at any given point in time should be used as a guide for the Township, and as developers formulate plans for sites along the River or as partnerships emerge that can implement recommendations from this Plan, these should be diligently pursued.

Potential funding sources which may be used to implement many of the recommendations of this Plan, are found in Appendix H. However, with allocations and funding sources changing continually, these should be used only as a general guide.

Figure 8: Action Plan Priorities

Recommendation	Priority					Implementation: Private Sector or Township and/or other	Prerequisite Actions
	Immediate	High*	Medium*	Low*	On-going		
Trail Related							
Develop Multi-Use Trail		✓				Private sector development along the River in the RDD District, or the Township could take initiative by purchasing ROW along the river and developing the trail.	Private development and/or Township ROW acquisition.
Develop Focal Point at Spring Mill				✓		Township/Private	
Create Trail Crossing at R6 Tracks				✓		Township/SEPTA	
Design Riverfront Trail for Leisurely Use	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Address Safety Issues	✓					Township	
Amenities							
Provide a Restroom Facility			✓			Township/Private/County	
Install River-Related Art				✓		Township/Private	
Consider the Installation of a Water Screen				✓		Township/Private	
Install Overlooks			✓			Township/Private	
Provide a Civic Gathering Space				✓		Township/Private	
Water use							
Install Boat Launches		✓				Township/Private/County	
Initiate Water Tours				✓		Township/Private	
Install Fishing Piers		✓				Township/Private/County	
Public Safety							
Provide Locations for Water Drafting for Fire-Fighting		✓				Township	
Provide Security Lighting	✓					Township/Private/County/SEPTA	
Provide Security Posts with Emergency Phones	✓					Township	
Design (Trail Specifications) for Emergency Vehicles		✓				Township	
Environmental Concern							
Alert Potential Developers of Environmental Concerns	✓					Township	
Circulation							
Extend Washington Street		✓				Township/Private	
Explore Potential River Crossing				✓		Township	
Signage							
Provide Way-Finding Signage			✓			Township/Private	
Install Interpretive Signage				✓		Township/Private	
Landscaping							
Creation/Restoration of Riparian Buffer Landscaping	✓					Township/Private	
Restore habitat on East 33				✓		Township	
Provide Beautification and Landscape Enhancements				✓		Township/Private	
Service Uses							
Provide Additional Public Parking		✓				Township/Private	
Provide Opportunities for Bike and/or Boat Rental Facilities				✓		Township/Private	

*High Priority (1-3 years); Medium Priority (3-5 years); Low Priority (5+ years)