

MEMORANDUM

January 9, 2000

To: Members, DeKalb Board of Commissioners
From: Dell F. MacGregor, DeKalb Soil and Water Conservation District
RE: Master Plan for Multi-Use Trails in DeKalb County titled 'DeKalb's Greenway Trails' and Board consideration to "authorize the CEO to execute all necessary documents"

COMMENTS:

The DeKalb Comprehensive Plan calls for the establishment of a task force composed of citizens and staff (The Initiative for a Green DeKalb), to plan and implement a plan for Greenways, Greenspace, and Open Space (p.VIII-3). The largely stream-based multi-use trails plan before you today is but one component of such a plan and should not be evaluated outside the larger context of greenway/greenspace preservation. I ask that the Board of Commissioners move forward in establishing such a committee for the purpose of planning a county-wide watershed based Greenways system as called for in the Comprehensive Plan. This multi-use trail plan can then be reviewed in the context of the larger picture.

Proper procedure must be followed with regard to the document before you. The Comprehensive Plan states that text amendments are to proceed through a public review process with a vote taken in June after this procedure has been followed. The public has not had an opportunity to review or comment on this document which was only provided to the BOC on/around December 21, 1999, and has not yet been placed in public libraries for such review.

RECOMMENDATION:

The document before you can provide valuable input into the larger process. However, it should NOT be approved by you in its present form and you should certainly NOT "authorize the CEO to execute all necessary documents" before modifications are made.

NOTES:

The above request has been shared with various members of the DeKalb Soil and Water Conservation District, the Fulton County Soil and Water Conservation District, the Trust for Aquatic Greenways (TAG), the Peachtree/Nancy Creek Technical Advisory Council (P/N TAC), the Georgia Chapter of the Sierra Club, the Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper, the Peavine Watershed Alliance, the South River Watershed Alliance, the Burnt Fork Watershed Alliance, the Rock Creek Watershed Alliance, and other interested citizens in whose watersheds these greenways are located.