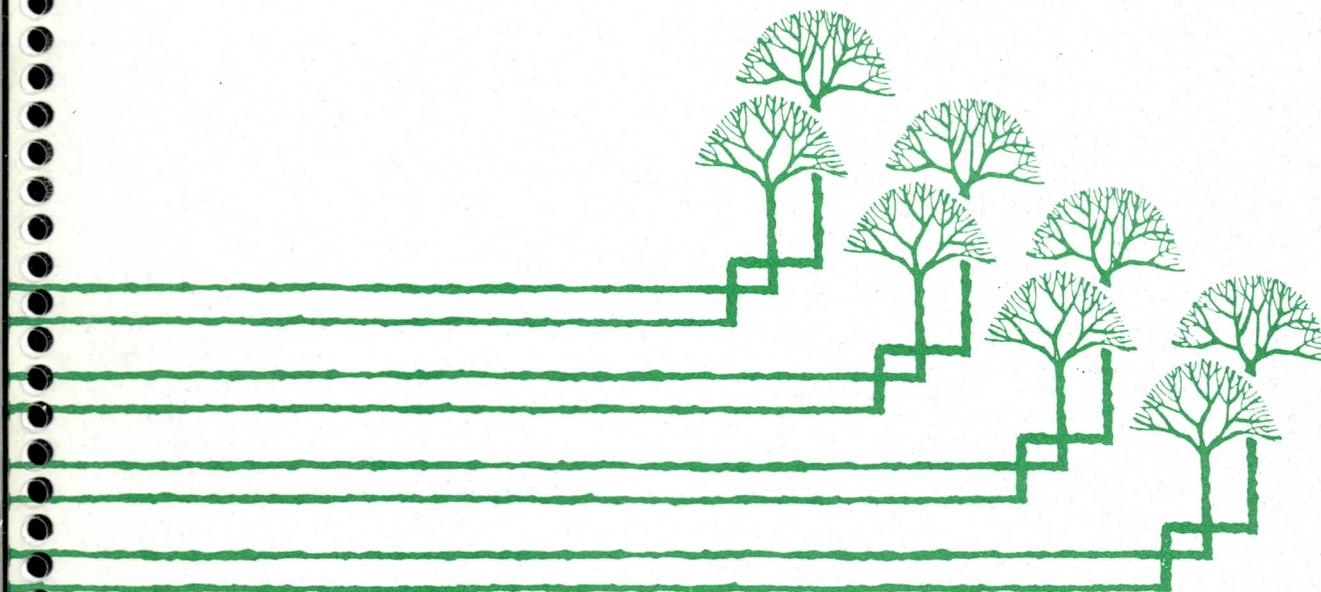


# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## SUNNYSLOPE/ ARIZONA CANAL DEMONSTRATION AREA MASTER PLAN



Prepared by the City of Phoenix Planning Department  
with Special Assistance from the  
Canal Bank Demonstration Project Team

December 1992

A118.978

**A RESOLUTION CONCEPTUALLY ADOPTING THE  
SUNNYSLOPE/ARIZONA CANAL  
DEMONSTRATION AREA MASTER PLAN**

WHEREAS, canal banks in Phoenix have the potential to become places of community pride, serving as alternative transportation corridors and linear parks to connect residents and workers with shopping, parks, jobs and housing via a scenic, safe and comfortable environment; and

WHEREAS, the Phoenix City Council in July 1990 directed staff to work with citizens to develop canal demonstration plans for five sites including the area along the Arizona Canal in Sunnyslope from Dunlap to Northern; and

WHEREAS, an interdepartmental staff and citizen team has worked closely with affected interest groups in the Sunnyslope area to develop recommendations for canal bank enhancements that could be designed and installed in phases as funding is available and presented them in a Master Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Phoenix City Council hereby adopts the Sunnyslope/Arizona Canal Demonstration Area Master Plan and Executive Summary in concept as set forth in the attached text and maps.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council directs the City Manager to pursue a variety of funding sources to implement the projects recommended in the report.

PASSED by the Council of the City of Phoenix this 9 day of December, 1992.

  
VICE M A Y O R

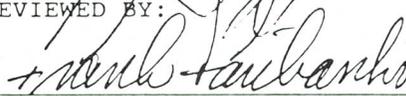
ATTEST:

  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
ACTING  
City Attorney

REVIEWED BY:

  
City Manager

# SUNNYSLOPE/ARIZONA CANAL DEMONSTRATION AREA MASTER PLAN

## Prepared by

### City of Phoenix Planning Department

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# SUNNYSLOPE/ARIZONA CANAL DEMONSTRATION AREA MASTER PLAN

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### **PURPOSE AND PROCESS**

Canal banks in Phoenix have the potential of becoming places of community pride. No other city in the Valley has as many miles of canals and canal banks as Phoenix -- 78 miles to be exact. This unique system of infrastructure is primarily the conduit for providing water to a growing population while the canal banks are currently an informal alternative transportation route for thousands of City joggers, walkers, and bicyclists.

The purpose of this plan is to demonstrate how the Arizona Canal banks in Sunnyslope can continue to be a part of an overall trail system and yet be a physical and recreational enhancement to the surrounding neighborhoods and commercial centers. To show these improvements we have developed a series of recommendations for a 1.5 mile area along the Arizona Canal between Dunlap to Northern Avenues as shown on Map 1: Study Area Boundaries.

This particular area is one of five demonstration canal sites in the City. The City Council authorized the development of master plans for each of the sites; the Sunnyslope plan is the first one to be completed. It was conceptually approved by the Parks Board, Planning Commission, and the City Council in October 1992 with some minor modifications which were suggested by the Parks, Recreation and Library Department.

The area was selected for the following reasons: adjacent to the Sunnyslope Core; parallel to the ACDC; a center of recreation activity; an unique scenic area; Arts Commission funding available for enhancements; and, private property owner interest. The plan was prepared by a Canal Bank Demonstration Project Team comprised of City and Salt River Project staff and interested citizens.

### **Citizen Input**

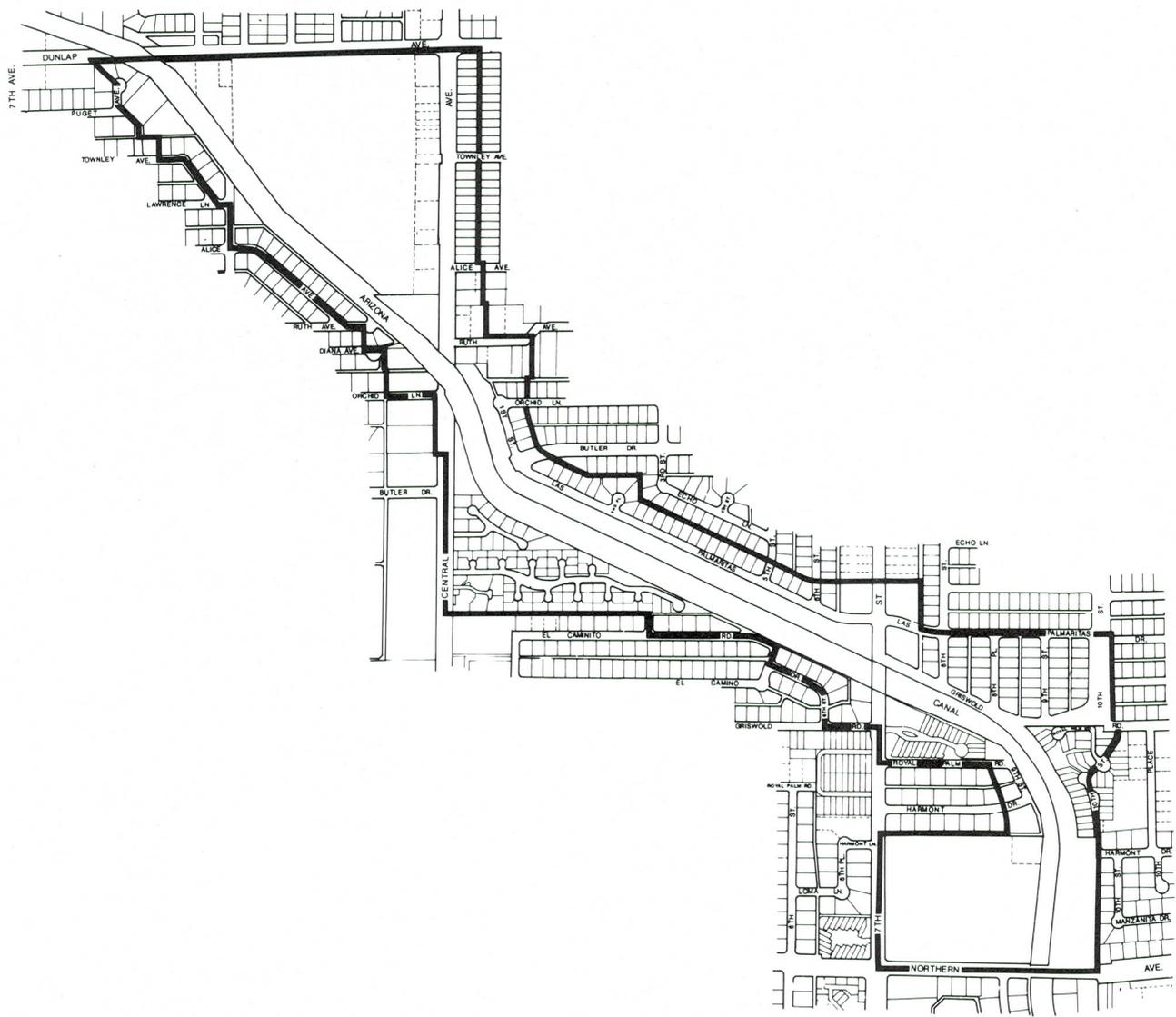
The initial alternative and visual concepts for the area were derived from the recommendations of the Phoenix Art Commission's Sunnyslope Canal Design Task Force. They held a design workshop in January, 1991 to share their enhancement ideas with the public. Other suggestions and observations are from an interest survey which was completed by 100 residents in the area.

Based on this research and citizen input, a preliminary draft report was completed which had suggested alternatives for enhancements. The report became the subject of review at the final public workshop held in May, 1992. The purpose of the workshop was to reach agreement on the alternative recommendations provided in the draft report and obtain other suggestions for enhancements.

### **S. R. P. Operation and Maintenance of the Canal**

One of the prerequisites which we are asked to abide by is S.R.P.'s need for a 20-25 foot maintenance area along both edges of the canal. The path is primarily used to service the water and canal operations with heavy equipment utilized on both sides of the canal.

Thanks to the cooperation of S.R.P., this same maintenance area is used by the public for recreation and as a trail system. This plan does not recommend any permanent structures or any type of obstructions to be placed within this pathway.



MAP 1  
 SUNNYSLOPE AREA/ARIZONA CANAL  
 MASTER PLAN  
**STUDY AREA BOUNDARIES**



Prepared by the City of Phoenix Planning Department



Graphic Scale in Feet

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are solutions to what the public would like to see improved along the canal banks. They are divided into two categories - those that are applicable throughout the entire demonstration area and those that are applicable to specific sites within the demonstration area. Map 2: Recommendations for Canal Bank Enhancements for the Sunnyslope/Arizona Canal Demonstration Area shows the locations of the suggested improvements stated in the master plan.

### A. CANAL BANK ENHANCEMENTS RECOMMENDED FOR THE ENTIRE STUDY AREA

#### 1. Canal Bank Major Street Enhancements

To identify the canal zone primarily to the automobile driver, enhancements will be provided at the canal bank entrances where they intersect with major streets. The enhancements will include trees, regional signage, different paving for the crosswalk areas, and pedestrian scale lighting.

The bridge at Central Avenue will be renovated by removing the rusty pipe lines on the two sides of the bridge and replacing the existing railing with a more decorative one.

#### 2. Local Streets and Alleys which Intersect the South Canal Bank

Neighborhoods border the south canal bank for the entire stretch of the demonstration area. The local streets and alleys that intersect with the banks within these neighborhoods will be enhanced with the following: pedestrian scale lighting, signage, trees, and street bollards (acts as barriers to prevent cars from entering onto the banks). These improvements are designed to link the neighborhood with the canal banks and indirectly invite more neighborhood use.

#### 3. Embankment enhancement on the South Canal Bank Adjacent to the Residential Neighborhoods

Trees will line the south canal bank to provide the desired shade element along the trails. The location of the trees would be at the outer S.R.P. property line adjacent to the residential areas. This would enable the continuous 20-25 ft. S.R.P. maintenance easement and the ability to deposit the silt on the south side.

#### 4. Piping an Irrigation Lateral from Central Avenue to Fifth Street

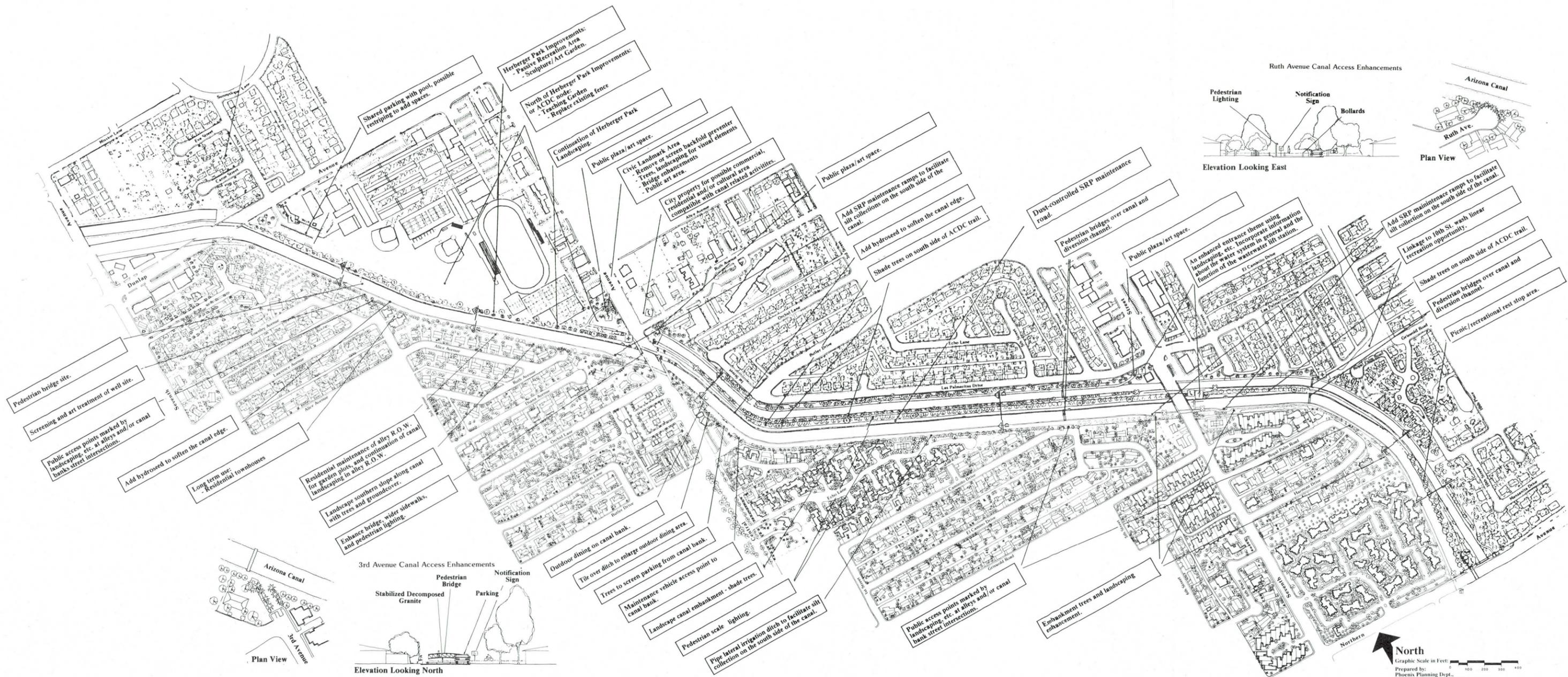
The irrigation lateral from Central Avenue to Fifth Street will be covered to make room for an outside dining area and better facilitate S.R.P. maintenance.

#### 5. Linkage of Shade Trees on the South Side of the ACDC Trail

Trees will be provided from the eastern edge of the Herberger Park to the Tenth Street Wash access along the south side of the ACDC trail (north canal bank). This will enhance the use of the trail for pedestrians and bicyclists.

#### 6. Pedestrian Bridges across the Arizona Canal and ACDC

Foot bridges, located approximately half way between each major street, will facilitate an easier and safer linkage for neighborhood residents to the canal banks. This accommodation provides the opportunity for the pedestrian to avoid the use of walking on the narrow major street sidewalks. The bridges would be built in a later phase.



MAP 2  
 SUNNYSLOPE AREA/ARIZONA CANAL  
 MASTER PLAN  
 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CANAL BANK  
 ENHANCEMENTS FOR THE  
 SUNNYSLOPE/ARIZONA CANAL  
 DEMONSTRATION AREA

Legend

-  PUBLIC TELEPHONE
-  DRINKING FOUNTAIN
-  EDUCATION CENTER  
(public information explaining the metro canal system)
-  ORIENTATION CENTER  
(orientation of canal user with respect to metro canal system)
-  CANAL USER STREET SIGN  
(notice to canal user of arterial street crossing)
-  AUTOMOBILE CANAL NOTIFICATION SIGN  
(notice to drivers of Sunnyslope Canal Recreation Area)
-  BENCH
-  PICNIC TABLE

7. **Canal Bank Signage**

There are four types of public information signs that are recommended, each with a different function.

- o Automobile Canal Notification: a regional type sign for automobile drivers, indicating canal zone crossing.
- o Canal User Street Sign: Persons on trails will know what street they are crossing and there are safety warning signs located at the underpasses.
- o Orientation Center Sign: A "You are here" map indicating trails, amenities, and focal points such as the Sunnyslope pool and telephone locations.
- o Education Center Sign: This will present the history of Sunnyslope, S.R.P. water system and other interesting facts about the area.

8. **Safety Features Along the Canal Bank**

- o Hydroseeding: Hydroseeding is a process by which mulch and flower seeds are spread over a defined area. Different flowers bloom as often as three seasons of the year. Hydroseed can be a safety feature if it occurs on each side of the canal along the water's edge of the canal bank for a width of five feet throughout the entire length of the area. Initially the process will be tested in a small area to evaluate its success.
- o Pedestrian Lighting: A pedestrian light is recommended every 100 feet along both sides of the canal throughout the entire demonstration area.
- o Public Telephones: Pay telephones will be located at each of the major streets where they intersect with the canal area. This safety feature will provide the canal bank user with the ability to dial 911 at no cost.

9. **Other Pedestrian Amenities**

Park benches, picnic tables, trash receptacles, and drinking fountains will be provided to accommodate the canal bank users along the trails.

**B. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UNIQUE SITES WITHIN THE DEMONSTRATION AREA**

1. **Public Alley Improvements**

A 16-foot wide dedicated public alley borders the canal between Diana Avenue to approximately 125 feet south of Puget Avenue. The trash collection will be relocated to the street if the users of the service are in favor of the idea. An "adopt a canal" program will be established which would encourage area residents to maintain gardens and plant trees. Agreements with the neighborhood will be prepared with the Parks, Recreation, and Library Department concerning the garden maintenance. Extension of the landscaping with tall trees and shrubs will include both the embankment area and the public alley.

2. **S.R.P. Well Site**

The well site is located at the intersection of Third Avenue and the south canal bank. The well's mechanical equipment will be painted with a variety of bright colors. The chain link fence will be replaced with wrought iron and landscaping will be provided.

3. **Garden Area Adjacent to Herberger Park**

A teaching garden will be built located on the north side of Herberger Park adjacent to the Sunnyslope High School playing fields. As part of the school curriculum, the gardens would exemplify the arid zone north of the canal and convey an understanding of the desert environment. An alternative location for the gardens is at the ACDC node on the northwest corner of Central Avenue and the ACDC.

4. **Herberger Park**

Herberger Park be developed with seating, interactive sculpture, and other amenities. The improvements could involve high school students, artists, and design professionals. This location is earmarked as a Percent for Arts project.

5. **Restaurant/Outdoor Dining**

Located on the south side of the canal bank along Central Avenue is a restaurant and outdoor eating area. Extension of the outside eating area will be provided on the canal bank by constructing steps to the canal bank, tiling the drainage ditch, and placing tables over the ditch. A 15-foot wide public trail would be located on the outer edge of the outdoor dining area.

6. **Public Owned Vacant Lot**

The site is located on the northeast corner of Central and Ruth Avenues. The site will develop as a commercial, residential and/or cultural use compatible with the adjacent recreation activities of the canal banks and ACDC urban plaza.

## **COSTS AND FUNDING SOURCES**

The cost to construct the improvements as described in the above recommendations is approximately \$2,000,000. The table on page 7 entitled Summary of Preliminary Estimated Costs Of Improvements and Recommended Phasing shows the list of improvements separated in a first phase and a later phase. Those improvements listed in the first phase are the basic elements of signage, trees, security, and user amenities. They are also the priorities of the participants who attended a public workshop to review the recommendations.

There are thirteen different funding sources described in the plan which are primarily State and Federal grants, Maricopa County and S.R.P. participation and private donation sources. City bond funds would be requested for the Percent for Art improvements and when there is the need for possible matching funds with some grants.

**TABLE 1**  
**SUMMARY OF PRELIMINARY ESTIMATED COSTS**  
**OF IMPROVEMENTS AND RECOMMENDED PHASING**

PHASING IMPROVEMENTS

<u>IMPROVEMENTS</u>	<u>FIRST PHASE</u>	<u>LATER PHASE</u>	<u>COST *</u>
Major Street Intersections			
Seventh Street	X		35,000
Dunlap Avenue	X		34,000
Northern Avenue	X		30,000
Central Avenue	X		47,500
Local Streets and Alleys Intersections		X	25,000
Embankment South Bank Trees	X		75,600
Shrubs	X		109,600
Lateral Piping, Vehicle Ramp/Restaurant	X		138,300
Linkage of Shade Trees (ACDC Trail)	X		64,800
Shrubs and turf	X		80,400
Dust-Control Material	X		85,300
Pedestrian Bridges		X	227,600
Canal Bank Signage			
Auto Canal Notification		X	3,600
Canal User	X		900
Orientation Center	X		18,000
Education Center		X	Arts Commission
Hydroseeding	X		4,500
Pedestrian Solar Lighting	X		316,000
Public Telephones			Installed by U.S. West
Picnic Tables	X		18,000
Benches	X		26,400
Trash Receptacles	X		10,800
Water Fountains	X		4,800
SRP Well Site Improvements	X		5,000
Herberger Park Improvements		X	Arts Commission Project
Restaurant Improvements	X		Private Funds
Vacant Public Property (Ruth and Central)		X	Private Funds
Public Alley -- Garden		X	Private Funds
Sunnyslope High School Garden		X	Private Funds
SRP Canal Maintenance Ramps	X		60,000
Wrought Iron Fence along School		X	33,000
Irrigation System	X		79,900
<b>Totals</b>	1,244,800	289,200	
	* 1,618,240	* 375,960	

\* A 30% Design, Construction and Administration Cost is added to the Capital Costs, which include materials and labor. These costs are estimates developed by City staff based on research completed from other projects. No detailed project specifications have been prepared or bids solicited.

The annual maintenance costs are estimated to be approximately \$76,320 for both phases.

## IMPLEMENTATION

General coordination and review is required by the Parks, Recreation, and Library Department for each project. They will also be responsible for the implementation of the plan and consult with the Planning Department, Arts Commission, and Engineering and Architectural Services Department who were involved in the preparation of the plan.

The following steps are included in the implementation process:

1. The development of maintenance agreements with the Maricopa County Flood Control District and S.R.P..
2. The preparation of construction drawings. These first two steps should be completed by the summer of 1993. With the construction drawings completed, there is the ability to determine better cost figures for grant applications. The maintenance agreements will determine how each entity wants to proceed with regard to the design and construction of the improvements.
3. Requests for funding for improvements. Funding will be primarily from State, Federal, County and private sources.
4. The licensing agreements with S.R.P.. A license is required by S.R.P. when landscaping enhancements or other improvements are ready for construction on S.R.P. right-of-way.
5. Construction Phase. The Parks Department will oversee the construction of the project as the different phases occur.