Riparian Landscape

CHARACTER

The Riparian Landscapes are characterized by the primary waterways of Kyle and surrounding floodplains.~~, seeking to protect them from encroaching~~These Landscapes require additional design and construction considerations for the responsible management of stormwater and wastewater, which accompany development. Additionally, significant vegetative cover can be found within these ~~District~~Landscapes, which impacts air quality and confers identity on the community, and should have urban forests and other stands of vegetation preserved whenever feasible. Riparian corridors may be wooded or open areas of land and water, and are of local and regional importance. Water quality and aquifer recharge are critical factors, especially as the areas around Austin develop quickly and demands for water resources increase.

INTENT

The intent of the Riparian ~~District~~Landscape designation is to prevent the loss of sensitive riparian habitat and viewsheds that impact~~s~~ regional environmental quality. Ecologically appropriate development policies and design standards should be defined in these areas, on case-by-case bases mandating a higher design and development standard than those parcels not located in such sensitive confines. Design standards and guidelines should be implemented to preserve habitat, stabilize stream banks, improve water quality, and control erosion. Public spaces (such as parks and trails) in the Riparian ~~District~~Landscapes should be primarily built for passive recreation, a priority for preservation, and should connect the various development forms to promote community cohesion.

JURISDICTION

The Riparian ~~District~~Landscape occurs along the major waterways within Kyle and its ETJ: the Blanco River and Plum Creek. The Riparian ~~District~~Landscapes are bordered by the Ranch, Sensitive/ Sustainable Development, Mid-Town, New Town, New Settlement, Farm, and Super Regional Districts. Figure 6 indicates the location of the Riparian ~~District~~Landscape.