8.0 CONCLUSIONS

The Hamilton Recreational Trails Master Plan presents a comprehensive review of the City of Hamilton Multi-Purpose Recreational Trail System linking the on-road commuter systems and off-road systems, including regional, provincial and national trails.

This Master Plan provides an in-depth review and analysis of the overall system, the planning context and detailed implementation strategies. The trail system links opportunities for natural, historic, cultural education as part of an overall public education program. These trails tie into other opportunities for tourism including the Waterfalls and Cascades of Hamilton, as part of an overall large scale eco-tourism program.

This report provides City staff, agencies and allied trail partners with a clear vision of the existing system and the recommended upgrades and additions to complete and enhance the total system. Using the ward initiatives, the reader can clearly see what work is recommended and how it ties into an overall, system wide basis.

This document is intended to be utilized as a working tool which will allow staff to review individual, phased trail initiatives while integrating those trails within the context of the entire system at any given location.

Digital files and records have been provided to City of Hamilton staff which will allow work and data to be integrated with existing and future GIS database system for future planning and marketing/eco-tourism efforts.

Throughout the report, recommendations are made for various initiatives which are integrated to strengthen and improve the City trail system and improve links to surrounding communities.

In addition, this document will allow staff from various departments including planning, public works to review development/redevelopment applications or land in the City. In this regard, the principles of the system can be integrated into those applications where appropriate to allow the City to fully develop over a period of years.