During the research for this report, a 1998 report was reviewed called Open Space in Pima County: A Supplemental Report on the Open Space Committee Findings. The report was generated by a Committee appointed by the Pima County Board of Supervisors in 1985. It included a list and brief summaries of prior open space planning efforts. The list is reproduced below and more recent open space planning efforts have been added to the list.

1976 – Trails Access Plan. This plan located several areas and developed public acquisition strategies where access in existing public lands was in jeopardy of disappearing because of urban development.

1978 – Parks, Recreation and Open Space: A Conceptual Plan. This study provided the background framework for the open space element of the first comprehensive plan adopted by the City of Tucson in 1982.

1978 – Tucson Urban Study. The study developed both short term (10 to 15 years) and long term (50 years) alternate plans to integrate watercourses and other water resource projects into locally developed regional recreation plans.

1982 – Santa Cruz River Park Master Plan Update. This was the first major river park in Pima County.

1982 – Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan was adopted by the City of Tucson and contained an open space element which called for the acquisition of major washes to link open public lands and for a more complete and detailed metropolitan Open Space and Regional Park Plan.

1984 – Rillito Corridor Study. The recreation element of this study proposed acquisition along the Rillito River for park development and a proposed connective series of trails along the Rillito River, Tanque Verde Creek and Sabino Creek. The flood control element provided flood plain management and acquisition of flood storage areas along Rillito, Tanque Verde, Sabino and Agua Caliente Washes.

1984 – The ULI/ALA Plan for Action. This plan called for implementation of the 1978 conceptual plan for open space and parks, and advocated early acquisition of open areas along the Rillito and Pantano Creeks.

1986 – Canada del Oro Master Plan. This plan was the first recreational river plan developed after all structured flood control improvements were completed on a major river.

1986 – Urban Design Commission Report. This report was an effort of local experts in planning, engineering, architecture and landscape architecture to improve the future urban form through quality design techniques. The Commission proposed a desert belt be created to define the Tucson southern boundary and supported the river park concept.

1986 – Critical and Sensitive Wildlife Habitats Study. This study identified areas of critical and sensitive wildlife habitat which should be preserved in the future.

1988 – Regional Trail and River Park System. This study was an interim step in developing primarily a regional system for Pima County. More detailed studies will be completed in the near future.

1988 – Regional Goals of Eastern Pima County. The adopted regional goals state: “A major asset of the region is its existing natural open spaces. To preserve open space amenities as urbanization continues, there is a need to integrate the mountains, foothills, floodplain and urban and natural parks into a continuous open space system.”