

First Reading: 11/25/2024

Second Reading: 01/13/2025

Bill No: 24-62

Ordinance No: 241125A

AN ORDINANCE ADDING SECTION 405.156 OF THE CITY CODE.

WHEREAS, the city needs a diversity of parks and trails,

WHEREAS, the city wants to incentivize the infill and development of property, and

WHEREAS, Trails and connectors increase the quality of life and activity of the population,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF THE CITY OF WILLARD, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. ADD SECTION 405.156

405.156 - LINEAR PARK TRAILS AND CONNECTIONS TO TRAILS

1: Purpose

The purpose of these requirements is to facilitate the development and maintenance of linear park trails and connectors within the City of Willard, aligning with the goals outlined in the **Willard Trails Master Plan** and the City of Willard Comprehensive Plan. Linear park trails serve as vital recreational and transportation corridors, promoting non-motorized travel and enhancing the overall quality of life for residents.

2: Trail Easement Dedication

- A. An easement through property to be subdivided shall be dedicated for the construction of a linear park trail if:
 - i. A trail is planned within a linear park as identified by the Willard Comprehensive Plan; and
 - ii. A trail easement has not been previously dedicated.

- B. The easement shall have a minimum width of **30 feet** and shall generally follow the alignment specified in the Willard Parks Master Trail Plan. Easements for linear park trails may be mandated during the review of preliminary plats by the planning and zoning commission or during the administrative review of subdivisions by the director of planning and development and director of parks. **Trail width shall be a minimum of 12 feet of concrete with a 3 foot level shoulder on each side of the trail.**
- C. **All trails shall be installed in accordance to**

3: Neighborhood Linear Park Connectors

- A. A neighborhood linear park connector shall be established during the review of platted subdivisions by the planning and zoning commission or during the review of lot division administrative subdivisions by the director of planning and development.
- B. The easement for a neighborhood linear park connector shall extend between a public street within, or adjacent to, the property to be subdivided and either:
 - i. An easement for a linear park trail, if located on the subdivider's property or abuts the proposed subdivision;
 - ii. The boundary of the property being subdivided if the linear park trail easement is on adjacent property.
 - iii. Trail easements shall not run in utility easements without prior written approval of the city
- C. A 15 feet wide easement for a neighborhood linear park connector shall be sufficient to accommodate construction, grading, and stormwater drainage. Linear park connector width shall be 8 feet with a 1.5 foot shoulder even with the trail on each side
- D. Neighborhood linear park connectors must permit free pedestrian access and may be encouraged to utilize other types of easements.
- E. Additional neighborhood linear park connectors are encouraged to enhance connectivity within subdivisions.

4: Standards for Neighborhood Linear Park Connectors

- A. Neighborhood linear park connectors shall be constructed from a sidewalk within street right-of-way on the property to be subdivided if:
 - i. The linear park trail, if existing or identified in the Willard Master Parks Plan;
 - ii. Utilities were adjusted to account for the trail
 - iii. The subdivision boundary of the linear park trail easement is on adjacent property.
- B. Neighborhood linear park connectors shall be a minimum of six feet wide and constructed according to City of Willard Design Standards for Public Improvements, unless between a designated trailhead and a linear park trail, where gravel surfaces are acceptable.

5: Alternative Recommendations

Ozark Greenways, Incorporated, or a similar designated organization, shall provide recommendations regarding alternatives to neighborhood linear park connectors where possible or necessary due to physical, natural barriers, or safety concerns.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and approval by the City Council of Willard.

Read two times and passed at a meeting of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Willard, Missouri on the 13th day of January 2025.

Approved as to Form By: _____
Nate Dally, City Attorney

Approved By: _____
Troy Smith, Mayor

Attested By: _____
Janice Gargus, City Clerk