

**First Reading: 11/25/2024**

**Second Reading: 01/13/2025**

**Bill No: 24-61**

**Ordinance No: 241125**

**AN ORDINANCE ADD SECTION 405.155 OF THE CITY CODE.**

**WHEREAS**, the city needs diversity of housing to sustain growth, and,

**WHEREAS**, parks add to the activity and recreation of the citizens.

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

**SECTION 1. ADD SECTION 405.155**

**SECTION 405.155 - PARK LAND CONTRIBUTION IN LIEU OF FACILITY FEES**

**1: Purpose**

The purpose of this ordinance is to provide guidelines for developers within the City of Willard regarding the dedication of land for Pocket and Neighborhood Parks in lieu of paying facility fees. These parks will enhance the quality of life for residents and provide recreational opportunities within residential areas, particularly focusing on developments occurring in areas identified by the City of Willard Master Plan.

**2: Definitions**

- A. Pocket and Neighborhood Parks: Small-scale parks designed primarily to serve the recreational needs of nearby residents. These parks typically include amenities such as playground equipment, picnic areas, walking paths, and open space for passive recreation.

**3: Park Land Dedication Requirement**

- A. Developers within the City of Willard may elect to dedicate land for Pocket or Neighborhood Parks in lieu of paying facility fees. The requirement for park land dedication shall be **1 acre of land per 10 residential lots within the subdivision.**
- B. The dedicated park land shall be suitable for development as a Pocket or Neighborhood Park and shall meet the standards set forth by the City of Willard Parks Department.

**4: Development of Parks**

- A. It is the responsibility of the developer to coordinate dedication, design, and installation of all approved contributed land parks.

- B. All parks proposed designs shall be reviewed and approved before installation. Facility fee credit will be given for the installation of recreational equipment in accordance with the **Willard Park Standards**.
- C. When the subdivision is phased, the park shall be completed before issuance of the first certificate of occupancy. No more than 5 homes shall be permitted for construction before the completion of the park.

**5: Maintenance Responsibility**

- A. All property shall comply with 500.118.3 of this Code
- B. The Pocket or Neighborhood Parks dedicated by developers shall be maintained by the City of Willard Parks Department. The Parks Department shall be responsible for the upkeep, maintenance, and operation of these parks in accordance with established standards and guidelines.

**6: Subdivision Approval Process\***

- A. Developers seeking approval for subdivisions within the City of Willard, especially those occurring in areas identified by the City of Willard Master Plan, shall include a proposed plan for the dedication of land for Pocket or Neighborhood Parks as part of their subdivision application.
- B. The proposed park land dedication shall be reviewed and approved by the City of Willard Parks Department to ensure compliance with the requirements outlined in this ordinance.
- C. All approved lands and parks shall be dedicated to the City of Willard before the issuance of the Final Plat.

**7: Enforcement**

- A. Failure to comply with the requirements of this ordinance may result in the denial of subdivision approval or other enforcement actions as deemed appropriate by the City of Willard.

**8: Effective Date**

- A. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and approval by the Board of Alderman of the City 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: \_\_\_\_\_  
Nate Dally, City Attorney

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Troy Smith, Mayor

Attested By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Janice Gargus, City Clerk