

Section 405.156. Linear Park Trails And Connections To Trails. [Ord. No. 241125A, 5-12-2025]

- A. 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.
- B. Trail Easement Dedication.
 - 1. An easement through property to be subdivided shall be dedicated for the construction of a linear park trail if:
 - a. A trail is planned within a linear park as identified by the Willard Comprehensive Plan **and all future active transportation plans**; and
 - b. A trail easement has not been previously dedicated.
 - 2. The easement shall have a minimum width of thirty (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 twelve (12) feet of concrete with a two (2) foot level shoulder on each side of the trail. Trail shall be installed in accordance with the Willard twelve (12) foot multi-use trail Section-TS-12.
- C. Neighborhood Linear Park Connectors.
 - 1. 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.
 - 2. 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:
 - a. An easement for a linear park trail, if located on the subdivider's property or abuts the proposed subdivision.
 - b. The boundary of the property being subdivided if the linear park trail easement is on adjacent property.
 - c. Trail easements shall not run in utility easements without prior written approval of the City.
 - 3. A ten (10) 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 eight (8) feet with a one (1) foot shoulder even with the trail on each side.

4. Neighborhood linear park connectors must permit free pedestrian access and may be encouraged to utilize other types of easements.
5. Additional neighborhood linear park connectors are encouraged to enhance connectivity within subdivisions.
6. Neighborhood linear park connectors shall be a minimum of eight (8) feet wide and constructed according to City of Willard Design Standards for Public Improvements.