Walking Trails Informational Packet

<u>Proposed Goal:</u> Establish a plan for and fund some ADA compliant, water permeable, walking trails on major (high traffic) roads to promote pedestrian safety and mobility in Woodcreek. Trails will ideally blend with and integrate into existing natural features and resident landscaping.

Background:

- 63 people signed a petition last year for the City to consider a walking trail along Woodcreek Drive. Submitted to Council 2/9/2022 <u>https://mccmeetings.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/woodcreek-pubu/MEET-Packet-751767e237dc45b788626463f97eb1e8.pdf</u>
- The Comprehensive Plan Survey Results listed walking trails and pedestrian safety/mobility as a high priority falling just behind road improvements as the second largest desire or public need communicated. <u>https://www.woodcreektx.gov/bc-compplan/page/comprehensive-plan</u>
- Right-of-Way easements line all roads inside Woodcreek. The total easement is 50 ft in width. This includes the road width in this measurement, extending equally on either side of the road to reach the total width of 50ft. There exists the possibility to place a walking trail running along one, or both, sides of the street within this easement throughout Woodcreek.
- Many Texas cities do not have the funds necessary to repair existing streets and sidewalks. The Tax Code authorizes cities to impose a special sales tax to fund maintenance of this important mobility infrastructure. [Refer to Tax Code, Sect. 327.003(b).]
- Matching funds grants exist: https://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreationgrants/recreational-trails-grants

ADA considerations and planning:

- Minimum width should consider two wheelchairs passing at the same time.

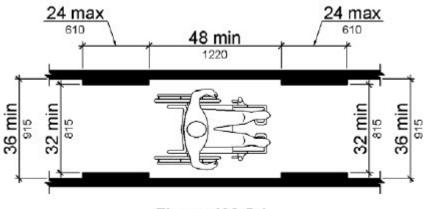


Figure 403.5.1 Clear Width of an Accessible Route

- Grading and Transition Considerations for wheel-chairs and limited mobility
- Way-finding additions to consider:
 - Visual contrast between walking and non-walking areas (e.g., planted borders);
 - Route edges that are clear and detectable by cane;
 - Barriers where pedestrian travel or crossing is not permitted.

SAFETY:

Crosswalks painted + Pedestrian crossing signs

Developing Code Concerning Maintenance:

The City shall regularly maintain the trail, but what responsibility will residents hold in regards to limb clearance and keeping the path clear of obstruction?

QUESTIONS:

- What roads to focus on?
- Mailboxes- do they need to move
- Off-street parking parallel to the street how do we address this need?
- How do we get residents on board and willing to let the trail pass in the easement in front of their house, without people feeling like it is "being taken?"
- Should the plan have phases? Identify projects/roads to section out the work into manageable chunks.

- Does this work happen alongside Road Updates?
- Should the City submit a Bond Election item for this work? Or, how to budget and pay?

CONSIDER: Connectivity to Wimberley Valley Trails Project

K.Friese Could do the Design and Planning – What is the cost for this service?