
Linear park trails and connections to linear park trails.

- (1) *Purpose.* The purpose of these requirements is to provide for the continuation of planned linear park trails and connectors necessary to access the linear park trails. Linear park trails provide options for recreation and non-motorized travel between where citizens live, shop, work, learn and recreate.
- (2) *Definitions.*
 - (a) *Linear Park Trail:* A multi-use path which accommodates a variety of non-motorized transportation options such as walking, cycling, skating, jogging, etc. Linear park trails are an element of the greenway system and can be utilized for recreational purposes and as part of the off-street transportation network.
 - (b) *Linear Park Connector:* An element of the off-street pedestrian system similar to a sidewalk which may or may not be located within a public or private street right-of-way. Linear park connector(s) provide pedestrian access between adjacent streets, residential developments, shopping or employment centers, parks, schools or other public facilities.
- (3) *Linear park trail easement dedication.* An easement through property to be subdivided shall be dedicated for the construction of a linear park trail where:
 - (a) A trail is to be constructed in a linear park as identified by the **Comprehensive Plan**; and
 - (b) A trail easement has not been previously dedicated.

The easement shall have a minimum width of 30 feet. New easements for linear park trails shall generally follow the alignment identified in the **Comprehensive Plan** and/or be located within the property to be subdivided in such a manner that they align with previously established easements on adjacent properties. Easements for linear park trails shall be required by either:

 - (c) The planning and zoning commission during review of a preliminary plat, or
 - (d) The director of planning and development during review of an administrative re-plat subdivision.
- (4) *Neighborhood linear park connectors.* Where there is a linear park trail on the property to be subdivided or the immediately adjacent property, an easement for a linear park connector shall be provided and a linear park connector constructed on the property to be subdivided.
 - (a) A neighborhood linear park connector shall be required during:
 1. The planning and zoning commission review of a platted subdivision; or
 2. The director of planning and development review of a lot division administrative subdivision.
 - (b) The easement to be dedicated shall extend between a public street within, or adjacent to, the property to be subdivided and to either:
 1. An easement for a linear park trail, if the linear park trail easement is located either on the subdivider's property or abuts the proposed subdivision and is on adjoining property; or
 2. The boundary of the property being subdivided, if the linear park trail easement is located on adjacent property and the linear park trail easement does not abut the property being subdivided.

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- (c) If the neighborhood linear park connector is between a designated trailhead and a linear park trail, the easement for the connector shall be a minimum of 15 feet wide; otherwise the easement for a neighborhood linear park connector shall be of sufficient width to:
1. Construct the neighborhood linear park connector;
 2. Provide any grading necessary for the connector; and
 3. Provide any stormwater drainage resulting from the connector.
- (d) An easement for a neighborhood linear park connector must permit free and unimpeded pedestrian access to both residents and nonresidents of the subdivision. Private linear park trail connectors, provided in addition to a neighborhood linear park connector, need not provide this pedestrian access.
- (e) Neighborhood linear park connectors are encouraged to be located on other types of easements provided the easements permit these connectors.
- (f) An easement for a neighborhood linear park connector is not required if a public street within the subdivision abuts an existing or proposed easement for a linear park trail located on abutting property.
- (g) The subdivider is encouraged to provide additional neighborhood linear park connectors.
- (5) *Standards for neighborhood linear park connectors.*
- (a) A neighborhood linear park connector shall be constructed by the subdivider within the neighborhood linear park connector easement. The neighborhood linear park connector must be constructed from a sidewalk within street right-of-way located on the property to be subdivided to either:
1. The linear park trail, if the trail exists, and the easement for the linear park trail is located on the proposed subdivision or is located on adjacent property and the linear park easement abuts the property being subdivided; or
 2. To the easement for the linear park trail, if the trail does not yet exist but is identified in the **Comprehensive Plan**; or
 3. To the subdivision boundary if the easement for the linear park trail is located on adjacent property and the linear park trail easement does not abut the property being subdivided.
- If no sidewalk exists, the connector shall be constructed from the street pavement.
- (b) A neighborhood linear park connector shall be a minimum of six feet wide and shall be constructed to the standards for the design of sidewalks as set forth within the **Design Standards for Public Improvements** if the connector is between a designated trailhead and a linear park trail. If the connector is not between a designated trailhead and a linear park trail, a neighborhood linear park connector may be constructed with a smooth gravel surface which is as nearly level as possible.
- (6) *[Related improvements.]* A neighborhood improvement district may be established to assist in paying for improvements related to neighborhood linear park connectors.
- (7) *[Alternative recommendations.]* Ozark Greenways, Incorporated, or a similar organization designated by the city council which designation shall be on file with the director of planning and development, shall make a recommendation to the planning and zoning commission or the director of planning and development regarding alternatives to requiring a neighborhood linear park connector in conformance with this section where a connector is not feasible due to physical or natural barriers or where it creates an unsafe public use.