

User Types



Actives Adults



Mobility Impaired



Older Adults
















































































Youth



Parents



Steering Committee

Destinations and Activities			Desirable Qualities and Features			Undesirable Qualities and Features					Most Desired Improvements			
Van Meter Recreation Complex	School, Library Post Office	Trindle and Johnson Park; Racoon River	Natural Areas, Scenic Views, Wildlife	New Smooth Walkways and Lighting	Benches, Shade, and Gathering Places	Poor Sidewalk Conditions	Lack of Trail and Sidewalk Connections	Tough Routes: Steep Hills, Deep Ditches, No Shoulder	Lack of Parking: Impacts on Drainage	Poor Lighting	Extend Trail System	Mitigate Highway and Parking Barriers	Add Supportive Features	Improved Sidewalk Surfaces
														
														
														
														
														
														
The recreation fields are a frequent destination among all user groups. Parents, grandparents and kids gather for youth sports with neighbors and visitors.														
The K-12 school is a frequent destination for all users. School activities engage many different age groups and draw out-of-town visitors. Most groups mentioned the Library and Post Office as frequent destinations.														
Users of all ages appreciate Trindle and Johnson Parks. Johnson Park is popular with runners because it has trails with challenging hills. New river access to walk, view wildlife and canoe is welcomed.														
Extensive wooded and open green spaces are important to most user types. Quietness, wildlife, and scenic views create a desirable natural atmosphere that evening users especially for older adults.														
All user types except youth noted how the newer residential areas allow for easy walking. Many drive or shunters. Existing gathering spaces are appreciated and more would be welcome.														
Residents appreciated having the gazebo at the Legion, benches along trails, and shade from trees to community events, services and family activities.														
There are no long connected routes in town. Connections between parks and the Legion, Crestview, and the older part of town, and between town and the river trails and access are absent.														
The hilly landscape and existing highways, creeks, and drainage ditches all constrain trail walk development. Many users feel unsafe on paths next to the highway. Steep hills make use hard for older people, the mobility impaired, and parents using a stroller.														
People park along the roads in residential areas, at school events, and at sporting events. Blocking safe passage on the road and sidewalks. Along the boulevard, swales have been filled to create parking, blocking water drainage and resulting in flooding.														
Lighting is important along local streets, and is lacking in older parts of town. Concerns include not seeing people walking or biking in the street at night. For older adults and the mobility impaired, it is very hard to see cracks, curbs, and other trip hazards.														
Most of the user groups would appreciate a more connected trail system to get around town, especially to connect to the countryside and other towns.														
Speeding highway traffic adjacent to common walking, running, and cycling routes concerns all user groups. Residents suggested finding route alternatives or calming traffic. Residents want better parking to increase visibility and allow safe passage.														
Features such as benches, lighting, and shelters near trails, sidewalks, and in parks will support better users. Restrooms in parks would help during tournaments and family events.														
All groups desire improved surfaces on sidewalks. They also want additional connections to complete the system in places, especially Elm and Main. Walks should include curb cuts and be wider in places.														

Actives walk, bike, and run regularly. They feel constrained by a lack of longer routes, connections to the river and other trail networks. They also want everyone to be able to access local amenities and services. They appreciate the hills as a challenge and for their beauty.

Mobility-impaired individuals often rely on walkers, motorized scooters and wheelchairs. Smooth, firm wide walkways are important. This group would like connected accessible routes, ADA doorways, curbs and ramps, and proper lighting. They can't enjoy community activities and services without these features.

Older adults enjoy living in a town with family nearby. Their main modes of transportation are driving and walking but they would bike or walk more if they had better connected, well-lit sidewalk and trail systems, with nearby parking. They love the natural beauty of Van Meter.

Youth enjoy destinations in town that include the parks and recreation fields. Their main modes of transportation include walking, biking, and driving. They would like better connections to local parks and the river. They like seeing wildlife and like the "woodsy" quality of Van Meter.

Parents drive, ride bikes, and walk. They are concerned about their children's safety as they travel throughout town. They identified paths close to Richland, the parking and traffic at events, and crossing the railroad track as serious problems. They would like to see safer routes to their kids' destinations.

Steering committee members walk, drive, and bike. They would like a connected walk/trail system, supportive amenities for all residents, and a unified landscape plan for the town. They want to facilitate green space and business development to provide destinations people will enjoy.