

Trails Overview

As noted on board 9, during the community TAB workshops, Wheatland residents from all user groups expressed the need and desire for a trail system within and around Wheatland and connecting to Calamus. In addition, the youth cited that a trail could be used for track runners since the Cal-Wheat school district has no track for the runners to practice, thus forcing them to use the road since most of the sidewalks are intermittent or pose concerns for runners.

Families and recreational users prefer separated trails over other types because of safety. In fact, studies have shown that use drops dramatically for other types of trails such as sharrows, paved shoulders, and bike lanes. While the ultimate goal for the community is to have a separated multi-use trail system, there are segments where a shared road (sharrow) may need to be utilized due to field conditions and/or property ownership as well as other constraints.

The concepts illustrated on this board are of the separated trail segments. Refer to Cal-Wheat boards 1 through 4 for concepts proposed for the trail connection between Wheatland and Calamus.



Existing photo 12a: Looking northerly along the west side of the school from the intersection of N. Toronto St. and E. Park St.



Existing photo 12c: North end of Lions Park on west side of creek; photo taken from W. Park Street looking southerly



Existing photo 12e: south side of baseball diamond in Lions Park (north side of creek), photo taken looking westerly



Photo edit 12b: A portion of the community trail system is proposed to provide connectivity to the school as a separated trail, providing safe access for youth and other community members to access the school and fitness facility



Photo edit 12d: The new trail system is proposed to have site amenities to enhance the comfort and enjoyment of the user



Photo edit 12f: The new trail system is proposed to meander through Lions Park and City Park, connecting the south side of Lions Park to the north side via pedestrian bridge.



Figure 12a: Proposed typical separated recreational trail section

High School

A trail is proposed to go around the northern, western and eastern perimeter of the school grounds in order to provide critical and safe access and connectivity to the area. It is envisioned that the trail could meander between the rows of most of the existing evergreens that are located on the northwest corner of the property and be installed with.

In addition to the trail, other site amenities include: way-finding signage, decorative lighting and banners, addressing accessibility to the trail and existing sidewalk, implementing a marked crosswalk on E. Park Street, and repairing and managing eroded areas like was present at the end of the sidewalk.

Parks

Linking the proposed trail system to both Lions Park and City Park, including adding a sidewalk network within the parks ranked high with the community. The trail is seen as a much needed improvement that will provide all age groups with added recreational opportunities and enhance the circulation as well as provide access to the portion of Lions Park that is on the west and south side of the creek.

As can be seen in photo edit 12d, the proposed trail will enter the north side of Lions Park between the existing creek corridor and the western property line.

A pedestrian bridge is proposed to allow the trail to cross over from the south side of the creek to the north side. This is

illustrated in photo edit 12f.

The enhancements proposed include:

- Way-finding and interpretive signage
- Site amenities that include benches, trash receptacles, bike racks, water filling stations, and dog stations
- Open ditch enhancement: removal of woody vegetation and invasive, noxious and otherwise weedy species and replace with native grasses and forbs tolerant of field conditions
- Supplemental planting of shade trees tolerant of site conditions, such as Honeylocust