

# CITY-WIDE TRAILS

## City-Wide Trail Improvement Plan

The City of Cape Girardeau's off and on road trail usage has grown through the years with the expansion of the fitness movement. The City has several off road, multipurpose trails meaning that both pedestrian and non-motorized wheel use is appropriate. The Cape LaCroix Recreational Trail is the longest and encompasses a 6.3 mile long asphalt trail that extends from the Shawnee Park Center near West End Blvd. and joins the Missouri Department of Conservation Nature Center Trail in North County Park. This and other off road trails such as the downtown riverfront trail is widely used by many citizens and visitors. Trails help provide health and fitness to many in the Cape Girardeau area. The city first began construction of the Cape LaCroix trail in the early 1990's and still has the need and desire to expand and improve this well used trail today along with adding trails to other areas of the City when possible and feasible. Recently the Southeast Metropolitan Planning Organization (SEMPO) in conjunction with the City undertook a regional bike and pedestrian trail study to help guide trail development in the future.



## CURRENT ISSUES

### Widening

The Cape LaCroix master plan identified key areas for improvement including widening the trail from 8' to 12', which is closer to the standard width for off road trails. The City has been able to complete phase one of the widening with PRS funds and would like to complete phase two and three.

### Stormwater Runoff

As part of the trail widening, additional stormwater runoff improvements were identified and should be addressed due to deteriorating trail surface and eroding run off areas.

### Restrooms

Lack of restroom facilities – identified Arena Park Trail Head as a preferred location.

### Trail Heads

Additional trail head access is desirable at Brink Street and the Shawnee Park locations.

### Signage & Parking

Additional way finding, trail signage and improved parking areas are desired.

### Trail Opportunities

New trail opportunities will be identified through the SEMPO Plan which will improve local and regional trail connections.

## PROJECT SCOPE

- Widen remainder of the trail from 8' to 12'.
- Improve lighting, trail heads, trail wayfinding, and add amenities such as kiosks, waste receptacles, and bike racks.
- Improve parking areas.
- Add new trails and trail connections where and when feasible.

## PROJECT OUTCOMES

- ★ Provide community connectivity and alternatives to vehicular mobility.
- ★ Increase community fitness opportunities and safety with increase in trail width.
- ★ Provide city informational and communications.
- ★ Restrooms for trail access will provide improved user amenities.

## ESTIMATED OPERATIONAL BUDGET IMPACT

- New trails and trail heads will require additional maintenance costs.
- Widening and improving existing trails will assist in reduction of accidents/incidents.

**CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATE:  
\$1,500,000**



**CITY of CAPE  
GIRARDEAU**  
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT



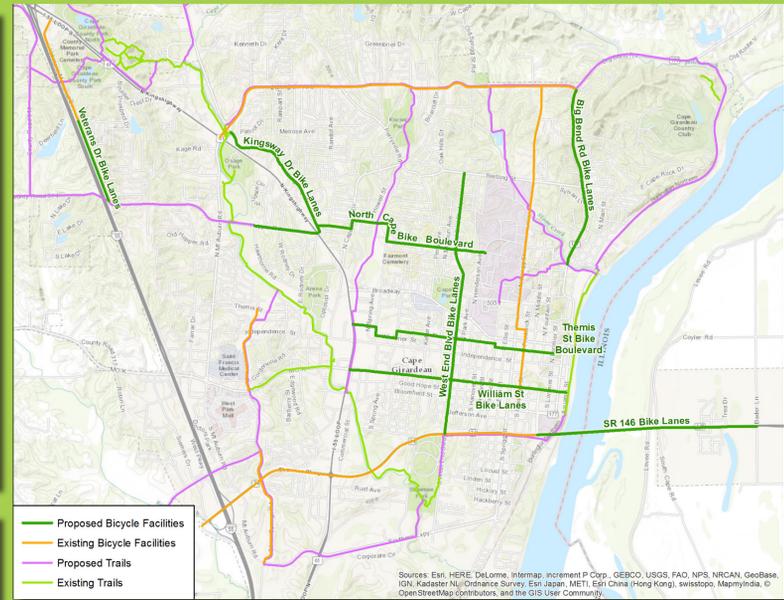
**IMPROVE WAYFINDING**



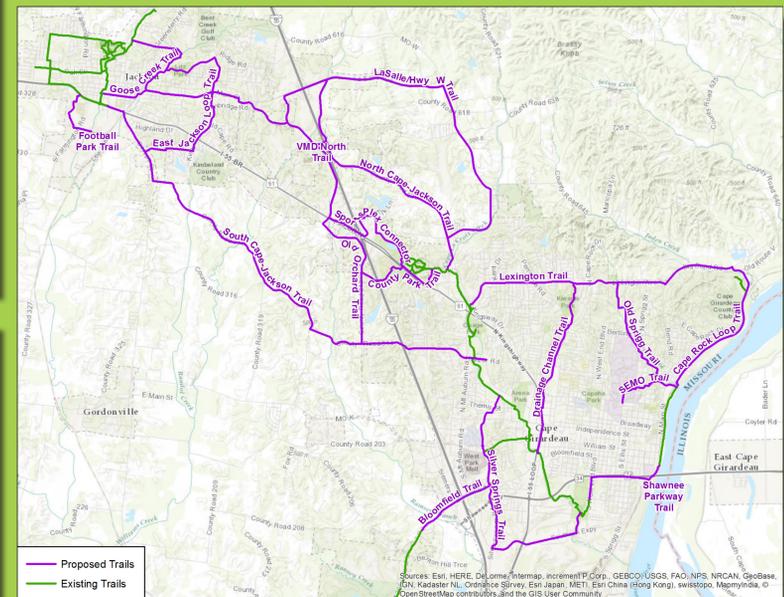
**ADD TRAIL WIDENING**



**TRAIL OPPORTUNITIES**



**OPPORTUNITY MAP FOR CAPE TRAILS**



**OPPORTUNITY MAP FOR CAPE TRAILS**