



Recreational Trails



14 Miles of Adventure

When you are planning your next outing, Lawton Trails offers a variety of walking paths and bikeways throughout the community. Elmer Thomas and Greer parks have paved walking trails with a story walk provided by United way of SWOK for school age children. While shared lane bikeways offer more challenging routes connecting our parks and Cameron University.

Embark on your wellness journey while enjoying City sponsored events such as International Festival, Arts for All, Freedom Festival, or Movie in the Park.

Stop by the Parks & Recreation office for a Lawton Trails brochure.



LAWTON TRAILS



COMMUNITY TRAILS

Sidepaths & Bikeways

Table 6.1 summarizes the existing on and off-street trails and bikeway facilities throughout Lawton. Figure 6.1 illustrates where these bicycle and pedestrian facilities are currently located. The majority of the facilities shown are from the 2008 Lawton Metropolitan Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. For inventory purpose the following facility definitions are used:

Off-Street Trails: Paved or soft-surface multi-use paths that accommodate a variety of users and are typically 10'-12' in width. These trails are typically located away from roadways in places such as drainage corridors, utility easements, greenbelts, and railroad corridors. Off-street trails serve both recreational and mobility purposes.

Sidepaths: These paved multi-use paths are located along roadways and are generally 8'-10' in width. Sidepaths should be wide enough to comfortably accommodate a variety of users without conflict. Additional safety considerations are necessary because these paths are adjacent to roadways and will likely cross driveways and intersections.

Bike Lanes: Bike lanes are a portion of the roadway that are designated for the exclusive use of bicyclists indicated by pavement marking, striping, and signage. The bike lane should be a minimum of 5' in width to provide a comfortable space for the user to maneuver in, but additional width is preferred depending on the roadway condition. Bike lanes can also include a physical buffer to further separate the bicyclists from motor vehicles.

Shared-Use Lanes: Shared lane markings and signage along roadways are used on existing roads that cannot accommodate separated bicycle facilities. The markings and signs inform motorists of the presence of bicyclists and suggest the likely positions of bicyclists in the travel lane.

Table 6.1 - Sidepaths & Bikeways Inventory

FACILITY TYPE	LENGTH (MILES)
Off-Street Trails	
Off Street Trails (paved)	2.21
Off Street Trails (soft surface)	1.85
Sidepaths	2.95
Total Trails	7.01
On-Street Bikeways	
Bike Lanes	1.56
Shared-Use Lanes	5.98
Total Bikeways	7.54



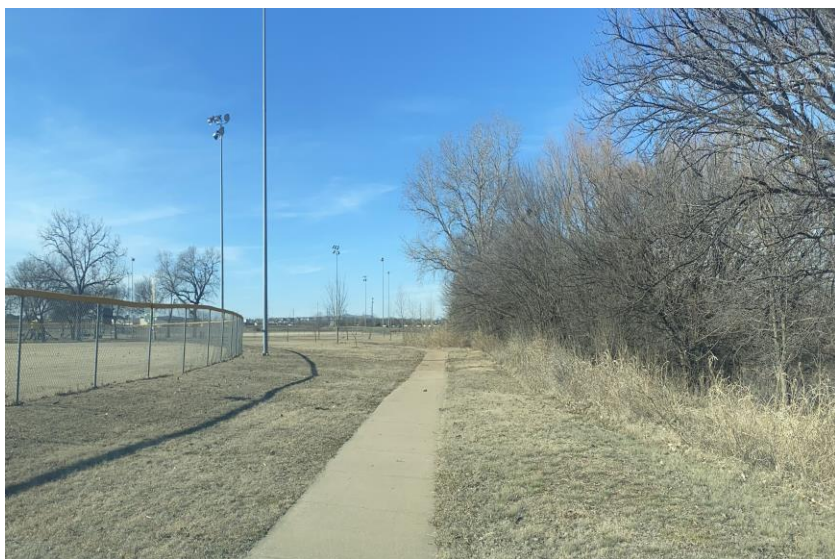
Bike route within Elmer Thomas Park



Bridges along a multi-use trail facility at Bridge Park



Respite area at Elmer Thomas Childrens Garden

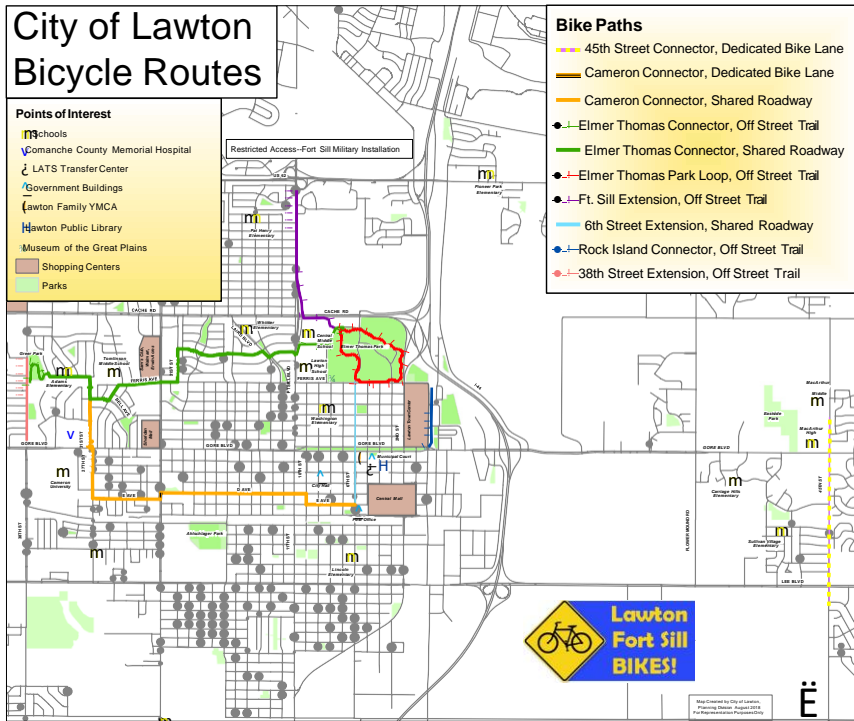


Vegetation incorporated along a trail at McMahon ballpark



Walking trails at McMahon ballpark connect to Dog Park

Figure 6.1 - Sideways & Bikeways Locations



Lawton MPO 2018 Bicycle Route Brochure



Bicycle and Pedestrian Network from the 2008 LMPO Plan

Lawton Metropolitan Planning Organization (LMPO)

CONNECTING A COMMUNITY

In 2018, the City of Lawton and the Lawton Metropolitan Planning Organization (LMPO) produced a Bicycle Routes brochure that illustrates the existing on-street bikeways and paved trail facilities. The majority of the facilities that are shown are shared-use lanes, which exclusively serve bicyclists, particularly riders that are comfortable sharing the road with motorists without any barriers. Shared use lanes use a combination of road signs and pavement markings to indicate bicycle facilities. The trails that exist are primarily sidepaths adjacent to major roadways.

Trails are paved sidepaths, located along major roadways such as 38th Street, Fort Sill Boulevard, and Railroad Street. Sidepaths, totaling 2.95 miles, create connections to key destinations such as Elmer Thomas Park to the entrance of Fort Sill (1.3 miles) along Fort Sill Boulevard. Elmer Thomas Park contains a significant amount of the overall city trail mileage with 3.71 miles, of that total mileage 1.8 miles are part of a paved loop trail, and the rest are soft surface trail connections throughout the park. The portion of the Elmer Thomas Park paved trail adjacent to the Museum of the Great Plains is designated as a Born Learning Trails. The City partnered with United Way of Southwest Oklahoma to implement interactive outdoor learning games along the trail, which aim to engage children and families.

The on-street shared-use lanes in Lawton, create an approximate 6-mile loop along major roadways in the city center and connecting to key destinations such as downtown and Cameron University. A designated bike lane, 1.5 miles in length, has recently been implemented on 45th Street which creates a protected bicycle route from surrounding neighborhoods to MacArthur Middle School and Senior High School in the far eastern part of the city.





Sidepath along Fort Sill Boulevard



Shared-use lane bicycle route identified with roadside signage



Paved off-street trail in Elmer Thomas Park



Born Learning Trail in Elmer Thomas Park