



Legislation Text

File #: 19-018-O, **Version:** 1

AN ORDINANCE DEDICATING A PERPETUAL TWENTY-FOOT CORRIDOR ACROSS CITY-OWNED PROPERTY FOR THE CROSS CITY TRAIL PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE PATH.

CITY PROPOSAL:

The city of Duluth does ordain:

Section 1. That the city of Duluth does hereby dedicate to the general public a perpetual twenty-foot corridor across city-owned property for recreational, walkway, and trail purposes over, under, across the properties legally described on the attached Exhibit A and depicted on the map attached as Exhibit B.

Section 2. That this ordinance shall take effect 30 days after its passage and publication.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This ordinance authorizes the dedication of a permanent twenty-foot corridor across city-owned property for Phase II of the Cross City Trail. Phase II of the Cross City Trail starts at the intersection of Carlton Street and Superior Street (Lincoln Park neighborhood) and runs west to Central Avenue (Spirit Valley/Irving neighborhoods).

From Carlton Street, the Cross City Trail travels along the east side of Wade Stadium beneath towering 100-year-old ore docks, cross over I-35 on an existing pedestrian bridge, and pass an industrial area before settling into a scenic stretch along the estuary. The trail then proceeds around the grassy campus of the Verso paper plant to picturesque stream-side Irving Park, a neighborhood park with athletic fields, picnic facilities, and a playground. This segment required negotiation of property acquisitions or easements with multiple property owners. Industrial uses next to the trail required signage and fencing stipulations to keep trail users from straying into work areas.

Completion of the Cross City Trail is a state and local transportation priority that will ultimately connect the Lakewalk to the Munger Trail and establish a paved, accessible bike and pedestrian pathway from one end of the city to the other. At the state level, the Cross City Trail will connect the Gitchi Gammi State Trail on the north shore to the Munger State Trail. Nationally, the Cross City Trail provides an off-road improvement to the US Bicycle Route 41, which travels 315 miles from Canada to St. Paul.