

Topic:	Pedestrian Oriented Design (POD)
Resource Type:	Regulations
State:	Kansas
Jurisdiction Type:	Municipal
Municipality:	City of Lenexa
Year (adopted, written, etc.):	Unknown
Community Type - applicable to:	Urban; Suburban
Title:	City of Lenexa Pedestrian Oriented Design Standards
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Abstract

The City Code of Lenexa, Kansas, provides for Pedestrian Oriented Design Standards in order to encourage people to walk, rather than drive, for short trips. Lenexa is located in northeastern Kansas, and is considered to be part of the Kansas City, Missouri metropolitan area. With a population of about 46,000 people, Lenexa was voted the #26 best American small town to live in by *Money* magazine in July 2009. The city is part of the region that is serviced by Johnson County Transit (the JO), which is a bus rapid transit (BRT) service that runs throughout the Kansas City area.

In 1998, Lenexa published a report entitled "The Evaluation of the Urban Design Quality of Lenexa, Kansas" which emphasized the importance of enhancing the public realm in order to bring the community together. Also, the report discussed the importance of promoting compact development in an effort to decrease urban sprawl. The Pedestrian Oriented Design Standards are one attempt at making these goals a reality by establishing guidelines for sidewalks, crosswalks, and mandatory public spaces. Sidewalks must be connected to all main entrances of buildings, and there are width requirements for sidewalks that service parking lots (presumably in order to accommodate increased pedestrian flow out of the lot). The ordinance requires retail, office, and multi-family dwelling units to provide for public space with amenities such as seating, sculptures, and water features

Resource

CITY CODE OF LENEXA, KANSAS
TITLE 4 – UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE
Chapter 4-1: ZONING
ARTICLE 4-1-C - GENERAL DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS
§ 4-1-C-7

§ 4-1-C-7. Pedestrian Oriented Design Standards

A. Purpose.

The intent of these standards is to enhance the pedestrian experience and encourage more people to consider walking for short trips. These standards are specifically intended to:

1) provide for pedestrian connections between private buildings, and to the public sidewalk and trail system, and

2) provide for pedestrian-scale public spaces and amenities at the entrance to buildings. It is intended that these standards apply to new development, but that these concepts be applied to redevelopment, expansion projects or previously approved plans whenever possible. Due to the unique design characteristics of the CC, Planned City Center District, adherence to the specific guidelines of this Section may be waived by the Planning Commission.

B. Sidewalks within Development Sites.

Each main entrance to a principal building shall be connected by a sidewalk to the main entrance of other principal buildings on the site, and to the adjacent public sidewalk network.

1. Location and Width: Connections should be a reasonably direct path, and sized based on the number of parking spaces serving the building entrance(s), off-site pedestrian draw based on use, alternate or multiple routes, and other measures of anticipated usage. Where feasible, these sidewalks can be routed through landscaped islands in parking lots to serve both the public sidewalk and parking areas. As a general guideline, sidewalks should be sized as follows:

<u>No. of Parking Spaces Served</u>	<u>Minimum Width of Sidewalk</u>
Under 50	5 feet
50 - 200	6 feet
201 - 500	8 feet
Over 500	10 feet

2. Provision of Crosswalks: Crosswalks shall be provided where sidewalks cross streets and drives. Crosswalks adjacent to building entrances that service over 50 parking spaces shall be of a contrasting pavement treatment. Other crosswalks may be painted, preferably with longitudinal bars.

C. Provision of Pedestrian-Scale Public Space.

Every principal retail, office, or single entrance multifamily building shall provide a public space, such as a plaza, courtyard, or garden within the vicinity of the main pedestrian entrance(s) to the building.

1. Size: The minimum amount of all public spaces within a site shall be 10 square feet for each parking stall provided, or 200 square feet, whichever is greater. The public space will be defined by the combination of paved areas, associated plantings, and architectural features.

2. Amenities: Each public space shall include seating in the form of benches or ledges and accent and seasonal plantings. In addition, the public space should include at least one of the following:

- A fountain, pond, or other water feature.
- Upgraded textured paving, such as brick or stone.
- Sculpture or other artwork.
- A portico, trellis, or other architectural shade feature covering part of the seating area.

3. Design: On larger or multiple building sites, public space may also be located at key points along major pedestrian paths, or aggregated at a central location. In retail locations, it is strongly encouraged that public spaces include areas specifically designed for seasonal outdoor sales and/or restaurant seating, and that specific layout for these activities be reflected on the plans.