



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



Keystone Trail

Nebraska



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Overview

The Keystone Trail is a popular urban-to-rural corridor for commuters and recreationists of all stripes: college students, business professionals, families, and others who desire access to Omaha's many universities, parks, and business districts. The paved pathway follows the Papillion Creek corridor for over 15 miles through the western neighborhoods of the city.

About the Route

The northernmost endpoint of the trail is located in Somerset Park, but the first 2 miles of the trail are not continuous and interrupted by several gaps. The continuous route has a northern endpoint at Democracy

Park and heads south into town.

For the majority of the trail, the route is perched atop the flood control levees of Little Papillion Creek, occasionally crossing back and forth over the water on bridges along the way. The concrete-surfaced corridor runs wide and, especially in the more park-like northern section and in the agricultural expanses of the south, grasshoppers can be found alongside the trail corridor.

While the trail only runs on an actual rail bed for 2.3 miles, the railroad's influence can't be missed. Just before Mile 1 is a high railroad bridge that the trail passes under through a sheltered awning. If train cars are stopped on the tracks, the effect is a powerful reminder of the area's industrial past. Before Heritage Park, a wooden trestle rests across the riverbank to the east. Pilings can also be spotted along the trail, usually near creek crossings.

A portion of the Keystone Trail runs through an industrial park area; however, the automobile traffic isn't a problem for trail users. The only time the trail isn't a flat gentle ride is when it dips beneath the roads on underpasses. Trail users can either access the road or avoid traffic altogether. Signs ask cyclists to be alert for oncoming trail traffic.

As the trail leaves the commercial district, the landscape reveals the vast, square tracts of farmland for which the Cornhusker State is known. Here, the trail enters several neighborhoods and parks where Little Papillion Creek flows into Big Papillion Creek as the trail approaches its southern endpoint along S 25th St.

Connections

Near the northern end of the route, the trail intersects with the [Sorensen Parkway Trail](#).

Near Elmwood Park, the trail connects with the [Boulevard](#)



Keystone Trail

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States: Nebraska

Counties: Douglas, Sarpy

Length: 15.96 miles

Trail end points: Craig St. & Wenninghoff Road (Omaha) to Bellevue Loop Trail at S 25th St (Bellevue)

Trail surfaces: Concrete

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Inline

Skating, Wheelchair Accessible, Walking, Cross Country Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

The Keystone Trail runs between Craig St. & Wenninghoff Road (Omaha) and Bellevue Loop Trail at S 25th St (Bellevue).

Parking is available at:

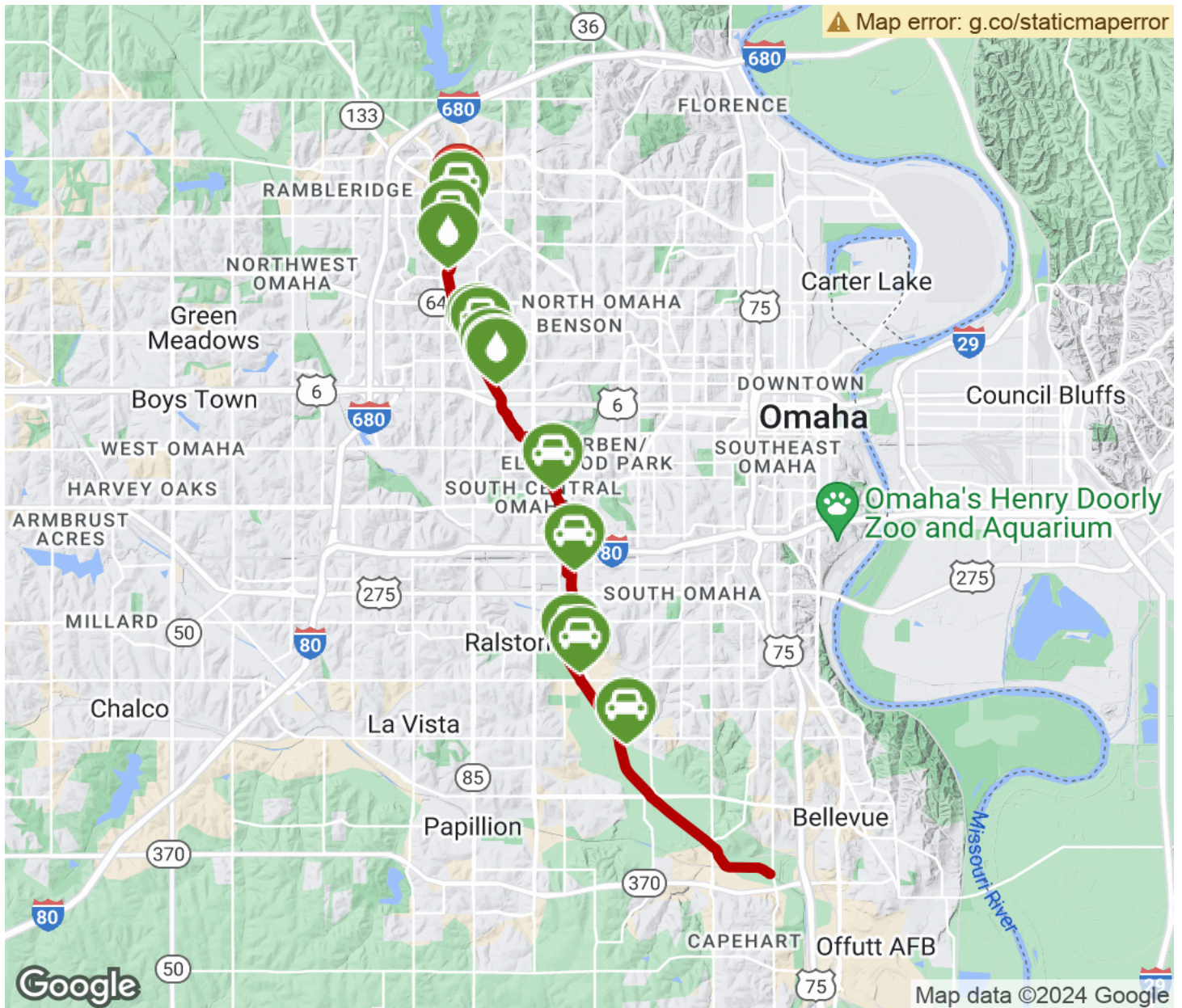
- Robert Park, 730 N 78th St (Omaha)
- Karen Park, 6288 H St (Omaha)
- Hastings Banner Park, 5005 Virginia St (Omaha)

Please see [TrailLink Map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

TrailLink.com