



South 169 Gateway Plan

South Gateway

Addressing safety concerns is a top priority for the Adel Community Visioning steering committee, especially for students needing to cross Highway 169 near the ADM campus. The South Gateway project proposes strategies that both improve pedestrian safety and enhance aesthetic character along this busy, high-speed artery into Adel. Simple, low-maintenance landscape plantings and widely-spaced shade trees are positioned along the roadside, and painted center medians are transformed into raised, vegetated medians planted with low, drought-tolerant ornamental grasses. These medians and roadside plantings can be effective traffic calming devices, signifying to drivers a change in roadway character from the open, high-speed rural highway section over the hill south of town, to a slower, more restricted urban corridor. The diagonal, poorly marked existing crosswalk that is in conflict with the private driveway for Harvey's Greenhouse is abandoned. New pedestrian crossings are proposed at two locations to provide egress across the highway. These include enhanced crosswalk markings and two-sided crossing signs with push button-activated RRFBs. The crossings bisect the raised vegetated medians, which provides a 'refuge island', or protected midpoint in the crosswalk. This breaks up the long crossing into two smaller more manageable crosswalk sections, a great benefit to those with mobility impairments, and young children. New sidewalks along the roadside drainageways connect these crossings to existing public sidewalks and neighborhoods and the expanded school campus sidewalks proposed by the recent Safe Routes to School Study.



Improved Pedestrian Crossing Perspective

Performance Icons

- Connectivity + Access**
- Safety**
- Identity + Aesthetics**
- Ecology**
- History + Culture**

Adel South Gateway + School Crossings

Genus Landscape Architects

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Iowa State University | Trees Forever | Iowa Department of Transportation

