



Overview

For the transportation inventory and analysis, the design team met with representatives from the Iowa DOT, the North Iowa Area Council of Governments (NIACOG), Kossuth County Conservation, county and local engineering departments, and city planning and administration. This meeting provided opportunities for each of these groups to discuss current and future transportation-related projects in which they are involved and that may impact the direction and outcomes of the visioning process. The following are key components of the transportation network that were discussed.

U.S. 169 (south end of town)

- Improved pedestrian/bicycle access along U.S. 169 is desired
- The current sidewalks are limited and not buffered from the road
- Many intersections along here can feel unsafe to cross
- There are potential plans to bury the electrical lines that run adjacent to the highway
- Snow gets piled along the roadway, impeding access here and on the north end of town

U.S. 18

- Resurfacing of the highway east of town to Sexton is scheduled for 2025
- Pedestrian and bicycle access is desired along the highway with crossing opportunity to Fareway
- New sidewalks along McCoy Street could be implemented up to the highway to initiate a crossing

Orton Road Bridge

- Cyclists and pedestrians currently walk in the street to cross the bridge
- Access on the existing bridge would be preferable if the current space permits; otherwise, a separate pedestrian bridge would be the next more affordable option

Trails

- Connecting the existing trail on the east side of town to the high school is the highest priority
- Future efforts to connect the parks and schools by trails is desired
- Utilizing the greenway along the river would be desirable for a trail, but flooding conditions are prohibitive
- Many county roads are already being utilized by cyclists even though they are not designated bike routes