

T-Bone Trail provides an opportunity for long walks or runs, and has nice ammenities like benches to stop and rest.



The main street is well taken care of and has a lot of great, ADA accessible spots to visit.



The town square is a favorite spot to go and hang out. It's close to businesses and hosts town events when it's nice out.



3rd Ave. is a main road to access the schools and is where kids like to ride bikes, yet it's missing sidewalks in many places.



The bridge to access the fairgrounds worries some residents. Some horses won't even cross it.



Highway 71 poses some visibility issues and it's not very walkable.



What Factors Affect Transportation in Audubon?

Transportation is integral to small-town life and a vibrant economy. In the context of the Community Visioning Program, we recognize walking, biking, and driving as quintessential modes of travel to various destinations important to residents and visitors. Access to these destinations is crucial for many everyday activities—getting to work and school, participating in community events, and providing for basic needs such as food, health care, and healthy activity.

In this participatory assessment, we want to find out which factors and conditions affect transportation use in Audubon, where these factors and conditions are most prevalent, and how they influence route and transportation choices locally. Because residents have the best knowledge of how Audubon's transportation system works, we use focused, small-group conversations, mapping, and photos of the best and worst to understand local transportation.

Different Users = Different Needs

walking distance.

To capture insights about transportation from a variety of perspectives, we invited Audubon residents with different transportation needs to participate in focus groups. A total of 50 residents attended Audubon's workshop. Participants were separated into five user groups and the Audubon steering committee.





Older Adults



12

Parents

(5 participants): This group uses primarily non-motorized modes of transportation, so pedestrian- and bike-friendly streets and sidewalks are important. These users value the ability to get to destinations on foot or via bicycle and having goods and services within

(12 participants): Safety of their children is a primary concern of this user group. Access to safe and easy routes to school activities is another significant factor to this group. Parents of young children desire smooth, wide surfaces for strollers.



(9 participants): The common denominator for this user group is that their observations are influenced by special knowledge of the transportation system acquired during the Community Visioning assessment process. As a result, this group is more representative of decision makers.

Transportation Assets and Barriers Analysis

Julia Badenhope, Sandra Oberbroeckling, Casey Cox, Giannis Koutsou, Emily Serchen, Chad Schultz

Iowa State University | Trees Forever | Iowa Department of Transportation

(8 participants): This user group represents those in the community who engage in outdoor recreation, including cycling, walking, running, swimming, skiing, etc. The availability of multiple venues for outdoor recreation matters to this group.

(2 participants): This user group is directly affected by accessibility barriers such as high curbing and uneven sidewalks that make it difficult to operate mobility-aiding equipment effectively. Handicapped parking, curb ramps, and smooth surfaces are critical transportation features.

(14 participants): Accessibility—both in terms of physical access and proximity—is a major concern for this user group. Because some people in this user group do not or are unable to drive, having goods and services within walking distance is important.

