



Corydon Lake Park is a popular destination because it is a well-maintained, natural environment where people enjoy running, walking, and fishing.



The intersection of Highway 2 and West Street floods after a heavy rain or snow melt because of a dip in the road and the absence of a storm drain.



Residents appreciate that the high school track is open to the public and enjoy walking on the smooth all-weather surface in a peaceful setting.



The lack of sidewalks, poor road conditions, and heavy vehicular traffic pose a safety risk for kids walking to and from school.



The trail at the elementary school's outdoor classroom connects people to natural areas and scenic views, and features a story walk.



People walk in the roadway on South and West Streets because the sidewalks are either broken and uneven or missing altogether.

What Factors Affect Transportation in Corydon?

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 Corydon, 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 Corydon'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

To capture insights about transportation from a variety of perspectives, we invited Corydon residents with different transportation needs to participate in focus groups. A total of 31 residents attended Corydon's workshop. Participants were separated into four user groups and the Corydon steering committee.



Actives

(2 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.



Mobility Challenged

(0 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.



Older Adults

(5 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.



Youth

(15 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 walking distance.



Parents

(4 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.



Steering Committee

(5 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.



Actives

"We run all over town. We specifically like running [in the Waldon Park area]... [you can run] a complete loop [around] the park without much traffic, so we both enjoy going there."

"If you have a trail, you wouldn't have to be worrying about paying attention all of the time, if you're going to twist your ankle or fall, so smooth surfaces would be great."

"Honestly, I wish this entire trail [at the south end of Walden Park]...could go throughout the rest of the town."

"In the summertime...I usually always run out by the reservoir [Corydon Lake Park] too...[because] It's one continuous loop. There's just more distance there."

"The roads [at Corydon Lake Park] don't get cleared very well, and it's not for [a] lack of trying. It's just because they're in such poor condition, [that] the snow stays on there longer than it should."

"There's really nowhere to walk except for the two trails...Because you can't do anything else on the sidewalks...half the time, there [are] no sidewalks...[so] you walk on the road."

"There's no parking at all [at the ball park]...so...people park on English Street...And then it's hard because there [are] people coming from both directions...And it's not wide enough...It's also a truck route..."

"Lack of sidewalks is definitely a hindrance [when] bike riding with the kids. When I'm by myself it's fine...but with the three- and a six-year-old, [I] don't trust them to stay out of a car's way."

"...there is no park [in the northeastern section of town] for [kids] to get to unless they cross a highway, and there is no way for a child under teen years to cross a highway safely on their own."

"[I've] seen a lot of people walk [the W Monroe, Valley Dr, and W South St] loop... Because there's not a lot of traffic on that road... It's...the nicest, smoothest pavement in the town."

"There [are] a lot of elderly people trying to walk to Dollar General on [Hwy 2], and I've seen many cross up the hill to the Dollar General and there [are]...no sidewalks."



Parents

"Kids [who] walk to school...have to cross Highway 2, and all of that is mostly a blind spot because [the highway is gradually going up [a hill], [and vehicles] are flying out of town..."



Youth

"All of [the roads in town] are horrible, except for...Highway 2...They're full of potholes..."

"[I like Corydon Lake Park]...it's a good place to walk. And [you can see] nature."

"There's a trail [at the outdoor classroom]. Sometimes I'll take my dog on a walk over there."

"They have a nice path all of the way around [the ball fields] and it is safe... they have...[distance signs showing] how far you can go. You can either go in the football field or around it...and the gates aren't locked..."

"...if it's really windy, it's hard to find a place to walk that's sheltered from the wind."

"[Raising the] Highway 14 bridge would...be beneficial in a lot of different ways...that would [improve] visibility...and... it would make it so that trucks aren't having to go through the plant and over by the fairgrounds and the athletic complex."

"I would want a big trail system around the whole town...going down [along] side of the cemetery...that connects clear over to our athletic fields, down Newton Road."

"We have a big lack of sidewalks in the community, so a lot of times you're walking on the street. You've got to watch out."



Steering Committee

"...they did put in some good sidewalks there on the south side of Highway 2, and they go all of the way out to almost [East Penn] and die there...So the ability to walk to work ends right there about a couple of hundred yards short of the factory."

"...the path coming from Walden Park towards the elementary [is] a huge positive...it's kind of secluded...so it's a little [quieter]... There [are] a lot of trees. You can see wildlife and it's a nice shortcut...for kids...because there's no vehicle traffic."

"There is a sidewalk all of the way from the high school down to the elementary on [the east side of West St]...[but] there are a couple of places that need to be repaired... [The sidewalk] on the west [side] just goes part of the way, and then there might be a block where there's no sidewalk where it's either been destroyed or taken out."

"Around the square where the curbs are all [really] high and they don't have [mid-block] handicapped [ramps]...people go up that curb and fall. I think all of the intersections...have... rubberized [curb ramps]...[but] people don't want to go that far down [the block] sometimes..."






"I would like [a walking path]...clear to the reservoir, around the reservoir, [coming] back to the golf course, [and] connect[ing] to the hospital..."



Older Adults

Corydon

What People Said

User Types	Valued Destinations, Activities, and Qualities					Undesirable Qualities and Features						Most Desired Improvements and Activities			
	Corydon Lake Park/ "The Reservoir"	Outdoor Classroom & Trail	Athletic Complex	Corydon Cemetery	Connections to Corydon Lake Park	Flooding/ Drainage Issues	Inadequate Sidewalk Infrastructure	Heavy, High-speed Traffic	Winter Weather Challenges	Inferior Road Conditions	Visibility Problems	Roadway Infrastructure Improvements	Trail System	Contiguous Sidewalk System	Pedestrian Safety/Traffic Control
 Actives	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
 Older Adults	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
 Youth	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
 Parents	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
 Steering Committee	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Actives drive and walk to destinations and run for exercise/recreation. They are concerned about traffic congestion near the Ball Park during games because there are no sidewalks, so people walk in the street. Having smooth surfaces on which to run is critical to this group.

Older adults drive vehicles and golf carts, walk, and bike around town. This group would like windbreaks around town, specifically at the outdoor classroom and the cemetery. They also expressed the need for an indoor walking option, as well as signage advertising local amenities.

Youth walk, bike, and run. Older youth also drive. They are distressed by the expansion of the battery plant toward Corydon Lake Park because it spoils the view. This group wishes that the high school athletic facilities were closer to the school so they wouldn't have to drive to the complex.

Parents walk, drive vehicles and golf carts, bike, and run. This group is concerned for the safety of their children, and suggested pedestrian bridges over Hwy 2 and in Corydon Lake Park. Parents also want free transport for people to destinations such as the pharmacy, the pool, and grocery stores.

Steering committee members drive, walk, bike, and run. They are interested in either raising the railroad bridge or lowering the roadway on Hwy 14. They also would like regional trails to the Bobwhite State Park trail system and to the round barn in Allerton.

Corydon Lake Park is popular among all user types. In addition to a plethora of recreational activities, including fishing, camping, boating, and Frisbee golf, the park offers users the chance to connect with nature. Low traffic levels make the roads comfortable for walking, biking, and running. Scenic views, access to nature, and a trail with a story to visit. People enjoy walking, biking, and running on the trail because it has a nice gravel surface and is located away from the "hustle and bustle" of local traffic. Residents of all ages and abilities like going to the new Athletic Complex, youth like to play baseball there, while adults enjoy walking on the smooth, all-weather track or on one of the two paths around the complex, which have distance signs so people can gauge how far they go. People frequently walk and run along the roadways in Corydon Cemetery because they feel safe. The cross-end of South St, which has a new pedestrian bridge, and well as from Walden Park via S East and South Sts and through the outdoor classroom and the cemetery. The absence of storm drains creates drainage and flooding issues on several city streets including Anthony, West, English, and S East Sts, along with Hwy 2 and a number of intersections. Roads in bad condition are prone to pooling water and muddy conditions after a heavy rain. Broken, narrow, and missing sidewalks throughout town are vexing to all user types. West St between school, S East St, and South St, are the problem areas cited most frequently by focus group participants. Heavy, high-speed traffic makes traveling in town hard for both adults and youth. Speeding traffic—especially on Hwy 2 and 14—poses safety concerns for pedestrians and drivers. Traffic gets congested on streets adjacent to the schools and near the athletic complex during events. In winter, snow piles impede visibility at intersections throughout town—including several for pedestrians on roads such as Jefferson St, DeKalb St, and Hwy 2. get icy. Snow is not cleared at Corydon Lake Park and the trail at the outdoor classroom, hampering outdoor recreation. Deteriorating roadway conditions create problems for all modes of transportation. Participants described "horrible" potholed and partially gravel roads around the court house square, and runners to navigate. Focus group participants reported visibility problems for vehicles turning onto Hwy 2 because it is four lanes around the court house square, and partially gravel roads are difficult for vehicles, cyclists, and runners to navigate. Fix the roads" was a common refrain among residents of all ages during the focus groups. Parents would like all new roads paved, youth want West and Lincoln Sts resurfaced. Steering committee members would like all roads with curb and gutter. Developing a trail system is a priority among residents of all ages. The steering committee and youth had many links to Corydon Lake Park, the golf course, and the hospital. All user groups want high-quality, well-maintained contiguous sidewalks in town, especially along Hwy 2 on all the main roads and one to Corydon Lake Park from Hwy 2. Actives want sidewalks that they can run on. The steering committee, parents, and youth had many ideas for improving safety, including designated crossing areas at the east and west ends of Hwy 2 and at Hwy 2 and English St. They also want stop signs and four-way stops in busy areas such as the square and Dollar General.