



Map of Decorah highlighting and analyzing existing transportation infrastructure.

Transportation Inventory and Analysis

Knowledge of the transportation systems in and around a community is critical for sustainable transportation enhancement planning. Decorah's transportation systems include highways, pedestrian walking and biking routes, and various forms of multi-modal transportation.

Decorah is bisected by the Upper Iowa River, which serves as a major means of recreation within the community. Additionally, State Highway 9 and US Highway 52 intersect at the southwest corner of the city.

The visioning design team coordinated with Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) personnel, and met with the Winneshiek County Engineer and local officials to identify existing, past, and future transportation system capital improvements,

maintenance, and other transportation-related constraints and opportunities in the Decorah area.

Several transportation-related assets and opportunities include a city taxi service, a multitude of recreational opportunities, and the many quality municipal services and amenities, such as the co-op, farmers market, and library.

Items of concern related to the transportation systems include incomplete, narrow, or crumbling sidewalks, unsafe intersections and high vehicular speed along such roads as College Drive, poor visibility, and unorganized or non-delineated multi-use streets.

Steering Committee



"...Short Street is a bike-able street. It's got the lane, but...I would never bike on that one. It's a freeway through there."

"It's not well delineated between pedestrian areas and cars, I don't think, especially along College Drive."

Older Adults



"I just recovered from a concussion that took me six months to come back from. I tripped on a crack in the sidewalk... The sidewalks are old and we love our old neighborhoods so much, but [the sidewalks] settle."

Youth



"The shoulders on [Ice Cave Road] aren't that great so we can't really run on the shoulders safely."

"When I'm walking [on River Street behind the middle school] I almost get run over sometimes because there's no sidewalk."

Actives



"For the most part the sidewalks are great, but if you have a stroller of any sort, there [are] a lot of stairs, so you have to kind of like memorize where those are and remember to cross the street before you get to them."

Community concerns about aspects of Decorah's transportation systems.