

Map Source: Iowa Department of Natural Resources, "Natural Resources Geographic Information Systems Library," <http://www.igsb.uiowa.edu/nrgislibx/>.

Elkader Commuting Routes

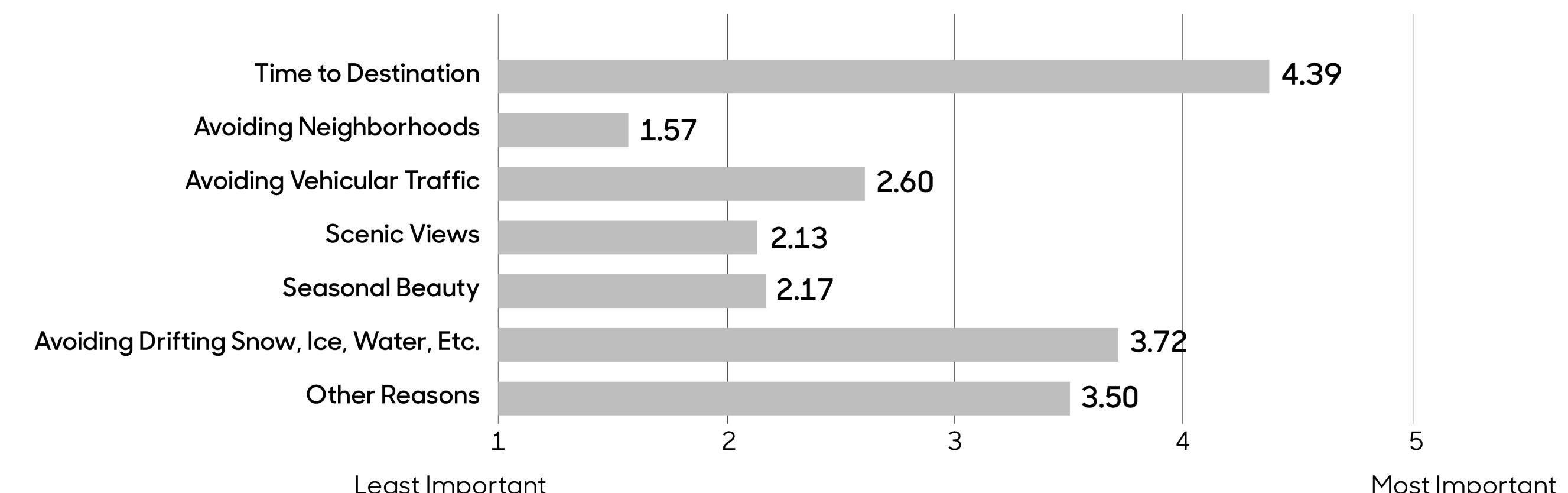
How They Get There

This map shows the commuting routes identified by 60 survey respondents, three of whom were self-selected high school students who identified the routes they take to school. The frequency that the routes are used is depicted by their width, with most frequently used routes being the thickest. The primary commuting corridors in Elkader are Highways 13 and 56 north-south. A number of people also travel north on County Road X16 or west on Highway 56. In town, North High Street to West Bridge Street is the most heavily traveled route.

The circulation patterns that emerge when routes for biking, walking, and commuting are overlaid suggest suitable types of transportation enhancements. For example, where pedestrian and vehicular traffic intersect, such improvements could include creating better visibility, defining crossing points, or improving signage.

Why They Go That Way

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the most important, survey participants ranked the characteristics and features that factored into their choice of commuting route. Among Elkader participants, time to destinations is the most important factor, with a mean value of 4.39. Avoiding weather-related issues such as snow and ice (3.72) is the second most important factor determining commuting routes. Other reasons, such as avoiding farmers, avoiding speed traps, and driving the most efficient route are also considered somewhat important, with a mean value of 3.50. Scenic views, seasonal beauty, avoiding vehicular traffic, and avoiding neighborhoods are not critical factors in determining commuting routes.



Transportation Behavior and Needs Survey

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