



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

How They Get There

This map shows the commuting routes identified by 47 survey respondents. The frequency that the routes are used is depicted by their thickness, with most frequently used routes being the thickest. The primary commuting corridor in Forest City is Highway 69 north and south. Some people also go west on County Road A42 and travel east on Highway 9. In town, 335th Street is the most heavily traveled, followed by West J Street, John K. Hanson Drive, and South 4th Street.

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 Forest City participants, time to destination is clearly the most important factor, with a mean value of 4.4. Avoiding weather-related issues such as snow and ice is also considered important, with a mean value of 3.3, followed by other reasons (3.0), which include safe sidewalks and most direct route. Avoiding neighborhoods, scenic views, and seasonal beauty are not critical factors in determining commuting routes.

