

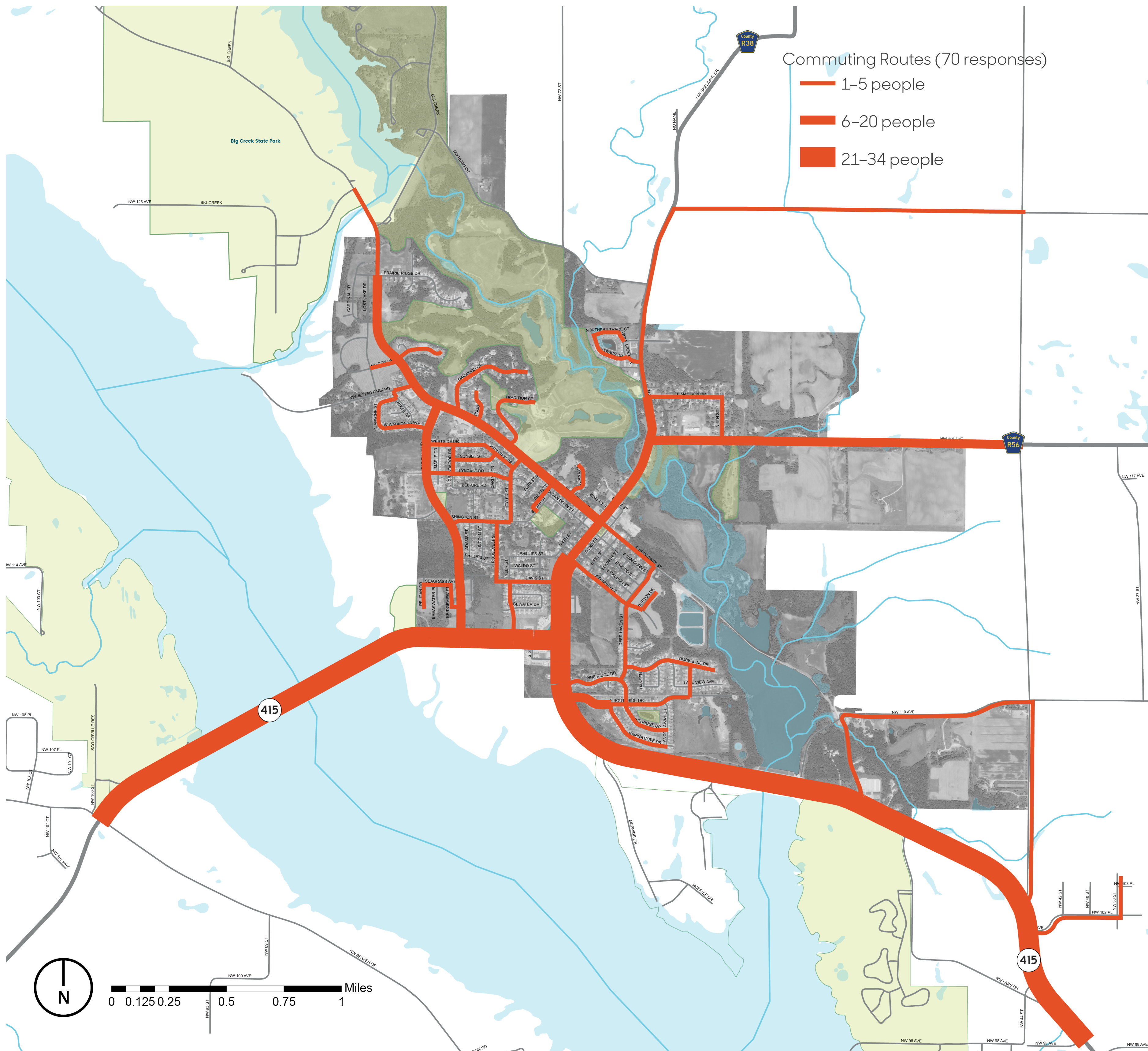
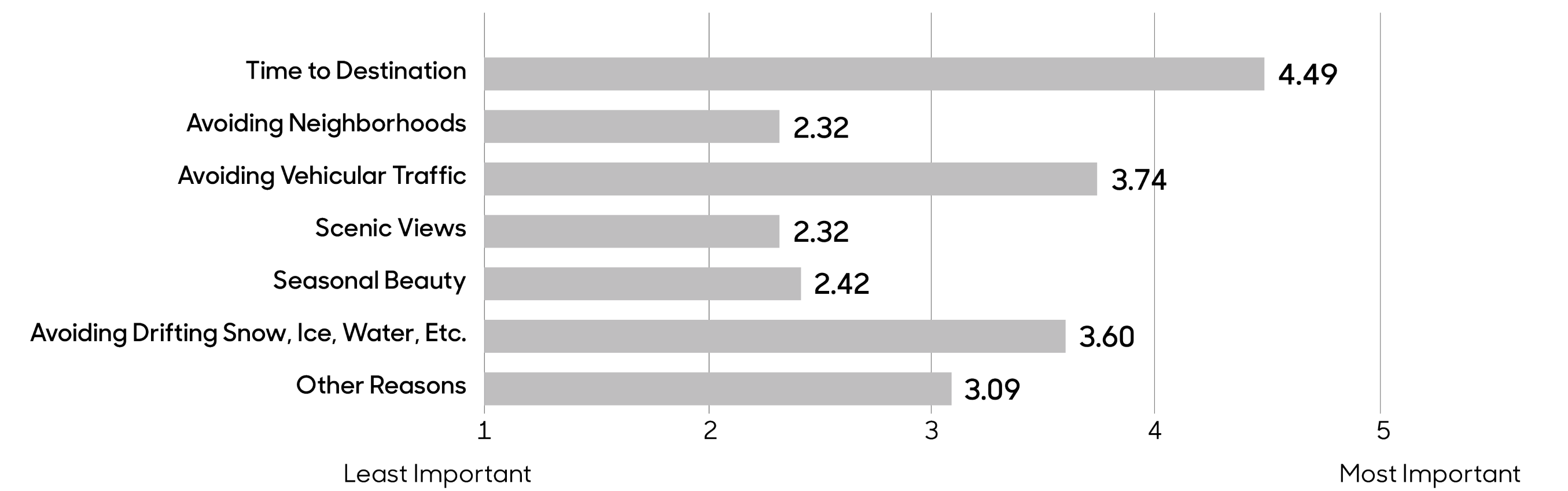
How They Get There

This map shows the commuting routes identified by 70 survey respondents. The frequency that the routes are used is depicted by their width, with most frequently used routes being the thickest. The primary commuting corridor in Polk City is Highway 415 southeast and southwest. A number of people also travel north on North 3rd Street to County Road R56, presumably to reach the US Highway 69, or to NW 126th Avenue, which connects to Interstate 35. In town, West Broadway and Parker Boulevard are heavily traveled to get to work.

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 Polk City participants, time to destinations is the most important factor, with a mean value of 4.49. Avoiding vehicular traffic (3.74) is the second most important factor determining commuting routes. Avoiding weather-related issues such as snow and ice is also considered important, with a mean value of 3.60. Other reasons (3.09) include avoiding school traffic, avoiding deer, and for cyclists, safety. Scenic views, seasonal beauty, and avoiding neighborhoods are not critical factors in determining commuting routes.



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

Polk City

Commuting Routes

Transportation Behavior and Needs Survey

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