



A map of Slater highlighting and analyzing existing transportation infrastructure.

**Transportation Inventory and Analysis**

Knowledge of the transportation system in and around a community is critical for sustainable transportation enhancement planning. Slater’s transportation system includes roadways, paved regional cycling trails, and sidewalks.

Slater can be accessed by the High Trestle Trail from the south and west and from the Heart of Iowa Trail to the east. Highway 210 bisects the community east to west and connects it to Interstate 35. The main city entrance from the south is via Linn Street or County Highway R38. From the north, folks enter on Linn Street.

The visioning team coordinated with the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) personnel, the Story County Engineer, the Story County Conservation representative, local officials, and a group of steering committee members to identify existing, past, and future transportation-related constraints and opportunities in the Slater area. Story County plans to repave R-38, including adding shoulders south of the cemetery. A major talking point was vehicular speeding coming north into Slater on R-38 as well as east on Highway 210 at the intersection of the High Trestle Trail and the Greene Street pedestrian crossing into Earl Grimm Park.

Slater has many assets to highlight, including Earl Grimm Park, Nelson Park, the High Trestle Trail, the Heart of Iowa Trail, and a scenic downtown. People appreciate Slater’s small-town vibe and the walkability of streets. Focus-group participants raised concerns about the inadequate sidewalk infrastructure, walking and biking along and across Highway 210, speeding traffic, and drainage issues at several street intersections and in parking lots. Results of a random-sample survey of residents reinforces the need for more traffic-calming measures and safer and more accessible pedestrian routes. Accessibility with curb cuts and well-maintained sidewalks throughout town is also important to the community.



Fast & heavy traffic, deep ditches and lack of safe crossing opportunities make pedestrians feel unsafe crossing Highway 210.



Most of the existing sidewalks in Slater are in poor condition and need improvement.

**Parents**  
 "...all these kiddos are wanting to go to [the] pool during summer, [to the park]...[and walk] home from school; that just seems like it's going to be unsafe [crossing Highway 210]."

**Mobility Challenged**  
 "...to cross Main Street...you have to get halfway into the intersection before you can see if anybody is coming. I've had some close calls."

**Older Adults**  
 "North of [Highway] 210 in the older part of Slater...every block probably has a bad sidewalk or no sidewalk."

**Youth**  
 "[At the intersection of the High Trestle Trail and Highway] 210, when you cross, it's blindsided...you can't always see the cars..."

Community concerns about aspects of Slater’s transportation systems.