



Concept Overview

Based on the outcomes of the What, Where, & Why meeting with the steering committee, the design team proposed several concepts for Slater, outlined below and corresponding to the map.



Safety

Slater has a significant need for safer pedestrian circulation. Due to heavy truck traffic, people of all mobility levels feel unsafe crossing Hwy 210 to desired destinations, such as Earl Grimm Park and downtown. There is a need for marked/signaled crosswalks at the intersection of Hwy 210 and the High Trestle Trail, to Earl Grimm Park, and on Marshall Street. Speeding is an issue in the downtown district and from traffic entering town on R38 from the south, especially adjacent to the Municipal Cemetery. The proposed design provides safe movement and crossings in town.



Walkability & Connectivity

While two major trail systems pass through Slater, they are not well connected to local destinations within town. A priority for the steering committee is to develop an inner-city loop that gives equal access to all parts of the community and that connects to the High Trestle Trail, Arboretum Park, the elementary school, the library, and the cemetery. Dedicated bike lanes on Marshall Street would provide direct access to businesses along Main Street. Widened sidewalks on Linn Street would create an accessible route between the north and south sides of town.



Beautification

Slater has great potential to be a major hub for users of the High Trestle Trail (HTT) and Heart of Iowa Trail (HOIT). Implementing a trailhead at the junction of the HTT and HOIT would promote economic growth for businesses on Greene Street and Main Street. This trailhead would also drive a connection to future developments and the new city park. Improving the existing trailhead at Arboretum Park with restrooms, additional parking, and a connection to the elementary school would encourage trail users to stop in Slater, which is essential.



Way-finding & Signage

Using the town's history as inspiration, consistent signage through town will help draw more people to destinations in town and encourage them to extend their stay in the community. Currently unpaved and unmarked trail points are confusing for both residents and outside users. Incorporating these signs will avoid confusion, give the community a uniform look, and provide a "wow" factor.

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