

Actives


"There [have] been many accidents going in and out of the high school, and [a traffic signal] would allow people to get across 63 and access that part of town to get to the rec trail. It would also let people get to both the high school and the elementary school."

"Crossing the four-lane highway, at times of day...can be difficult. There used to be a push button stoplight at the corner of...Ninth [and] State Street in Tama. Once the schools...in that area went away, that push button stoplight went away as well."

"I go down to Cherry Lake a lot. The rec trail goes around Cherry Lake...From my house, it's an easy walk."

"Kids go to the pool up State Street...in Tama and the sidewalk ends... at 16th and State... There's no sidewalk from there, so kids are walking in the street all the time to the pool."

"Cherry Lake in the winter, it's a challenge because...they don't clear the trail in the winter, so you're walking in deep snow...Parking down there...[is] low lying...so...I won't say it's flooded, but it definitely puddles and gets muddy."



Youth


"One place I like to go in Tama is the skate park...I like to ride my skateboard over there because there aren't too many people."

"I like going to the middle school because there's a big open blacktop area so you can ride your bike in it and play basketball or play four square."

"There's a park by my house and it's on Third Street and I like to go to it."

"In winter the roads are always really slick."

"We ride our golf cart [to the swimming pool]."



Parents

"There [are] no sidewalks at all [on Vine Street], and at the end of Church Street, the bus drops off the children to walk up Vine Street. Now, these are some...really young children walking in the street to get to their houses and...when there's snow on the ground...the streets are even more narrow..."

"In Tama we have Cherry Lake, and there's a real nice path that goes around, that the children and I will drive down to it, and then we can walk around the path."

"There is lack of walkability...on [Highway] 63, even if there is a sidewalk, you fear that [a] car is going to come at you. There is no barrier, whether it be vegetative or some sort of or trash cans or something..."

"It's a nice trail. It goes by the golf course, which is pretty, and it also has a canopy of trees. After you go north to the golf course, it's trees from there and it's shaded."

"I would really like to see something done to create a safe...walkway across Highway 63 for kids [who] are walking from the schools to the opposite side of the highway."



Older Adults

"Our biggest situation is [that the] sidewalks are not big enough... if you're walking two people...so we end up being in the street a lot."

"They fixed all the entrances to the sidewalks [along East 5th Street]. They're all handicapped-accessible now, which is really great, especially if you are riding [a bike] and you need to get on the sidewalk."

"A lot of people complain we're in the street, but that's a little bit safer to walk than it is on sidewalks so that is a problem."

"I enjoy [Cherry Lake] because I do bike. I enjoy the nature, the wildlife you see there in the water and out around the lake. I think it's really pretty."

"Put sidewalk on both sides of Highway 63... all the way to Toledo. There's some on both sides, but you've got to cross over the highway, so let's just get sidewalks on both sides."



Mobility Challenged

"There [are] absolutely no sidewalks around the school, except for the one that runs on the highway...Just crossing Fourth Street to get to the school is quite hazardous for the kids in the morning and in the afternoon. There [are] only a couple stop signs and a lot of traffic, and there [are] no sidewalks for the most part."

"...Woodlawn Cemetery [has] nice paths...For the most part, they keep them cleaned off...It's got some decent hills...It's easy walking and it's pretty safe."

"Most of the time, we end up...on the... street, because—especially when the weather is not very good—the sidewalks aren't complete and it's really hard...for me because I had a knee replacement."

"There are no sidewalks [along State and McClellan Streets] and it is a very narrow pathway, so there's definitely concerns for people walking there."

"The corner of State Street and Highway 63 looking south... has some great sidewalks that were recently repaired and made ADA [accessible]."



Steering Committee

"...We do have about ten miles of trail system within the communities if you include the cutoff to get over to Cherry Lake and do Tama-Toledo and go around the park in Toledo. You can get about a ten-mile bike ride, which is pretty nice."

"A lot of people...go over to St. Pat's Church and walk around because it's got a great flat sidewalk and parking lot all the way around, so it's a really good place for people to exercise."

"I think Cherry Lake would be an asset...it's a nice walk...and it's a park-like setting walk, so you're not walking the neighborhoods..."

"[People] can get to [the swimming pool] from Toledo with a beautiful paved path, but from Tama, there's nothing, and so the children are walking...on the streets."

"...the [sidewalk] from the north is on one side of the highway and the one from south is on the opposite side, so they don't coordinate. You will see people with bags of groceries... walking alongside a four-lane highway."

Tama

What People Said

Transportation Assets and Barriers
 Julia Badenhop, Sandra Oberbroeckling, Chad Hunter
 Iowa State University | Trees Forever | Iowa Department of Transportation

