

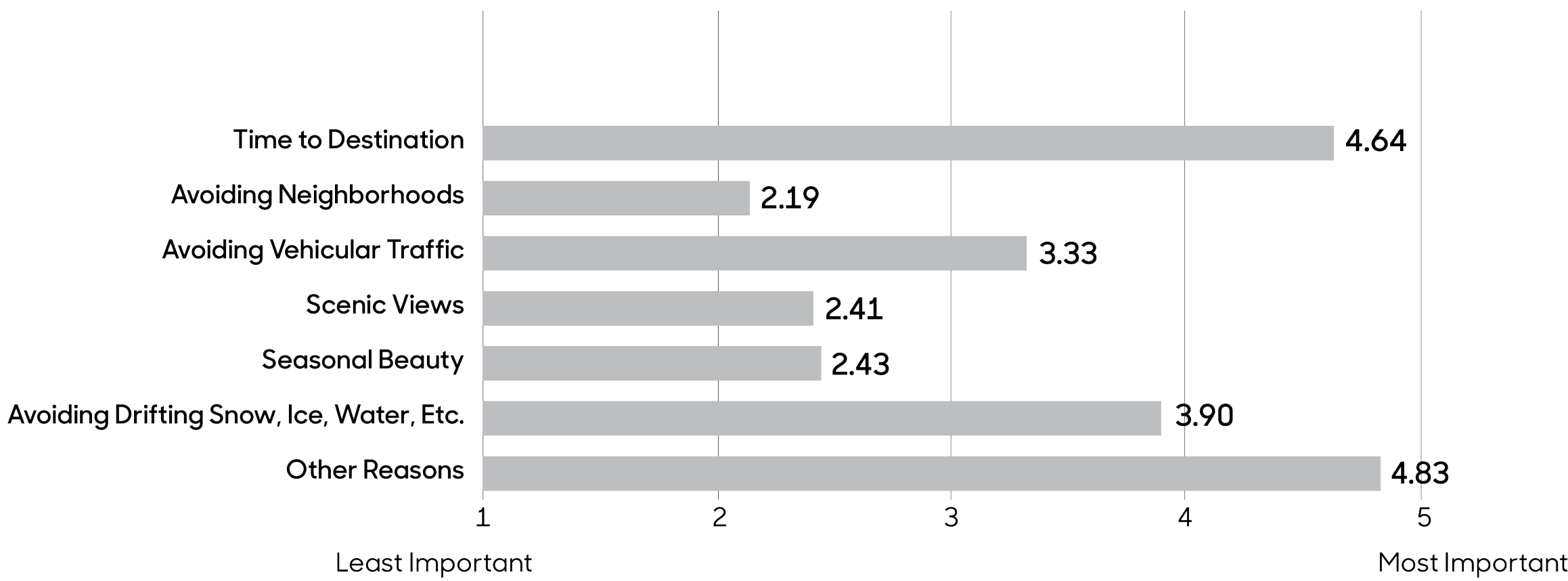
How They Get There

This map shows the commuting routes identified by 89 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 Van Meter is County Road R16 to the north from East Street, presumably because many commuters use I-80 to get to the Des Moines Metro Area. Some people also travel south on R16 to connect to County Road F90 to go east or west. As the only access to the Crestview development, R16 south of F90 is heavily traveled, as is Hazel Street in the west part of town.

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 Durant participants, other reasons such as the quality of the road, safe neighborhoods, coordinating multiple stops, and avoiding stoplights are the most important factors, with a mean value of 4.83, followed by time to destination (4.64). Avoiding weather-related issues such as snow and ice is also considered important, with a mean value of 3.90. 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/>.