



Walcott residents representing various focus groups sign in to participate in the February 2019 TAB workshop held in Walcott.

Program Overview

The city of Walcott is one of 10 communities selected to participate in the 2019 Iowa’s Living Roadways Community Visioning Program.

The program, which selects communities through a competitive application process, provides professional planning and design assistance along transportation corridors to small Iowa communities (less than 10,000 residents).

Visioning Program Goals:

- Develop a conceptual plan and implementation strategies alongside local community residents.
- Enhance the natural, cultural and visual resources existing within communities.
- Assist local communities in using external funds as leverage for transportation corridor enhancement.

Each visioning community works through a planning process consisting of four phases of concept development:

1. Program initiation
2. Needs assessment and goal setting
3. Development of a concept plan
4. Implementation and sustained action



One of the various focus groups (Steering Committee) providing its input at the February 2019 TAB workshop.

Each visioning community is represented by a steering committee of local residents and stakeholders who take part in a series of meetings that are facilitated by field coordinators from Trees Forever.

Iowa State University’s Landscape Architecture Department and Extension and Outreach, of which the Community Visioning program is part, manages the design team and the Community Visioning program, as well as organizes the initial focus groups and transportation assets and behaviors workshop (TAB) and survey with design interns and ISU staff. Iowa State University, along with Trees Forever and the Iowa Department of Transportation, select private sector Professional Landscape Architects (PLA) to be part of the design team and work with the various communities in creating their “community vision” and transportation enhancement plan.

Iowa State University processes the information collected from the focus groups and surveys and provides the data to the steering committee and design team for their use in developing community centered transportation enhancements based on the needs and desires expressed by residents participating in the focus groups, surveys, and public design workshop.

The Community Visioning program is sponsored by the Iowa Department of Transportation.

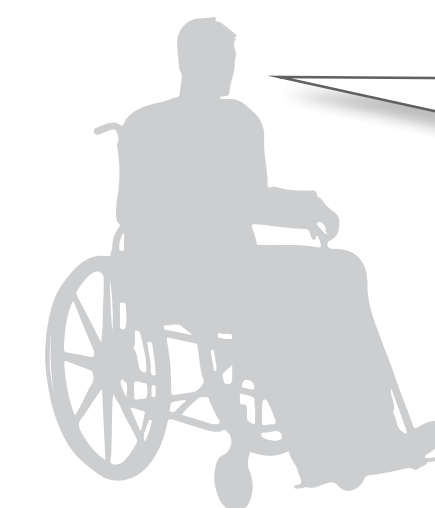


The design team and members of the steering committee review Water Tower Park during the May 2019 community tour to look at the priority project areas throughout town.

Community Goals

The Walcott steering committee identified a number of goals and priority areas during the visioning process. These goals and priorities were reflective of what the community members identified in the TAB workshops (see Boards 3a-3c) and surveys (see Boards 4a-4f).

- Improve accessibility & connectivity
- Enhance pedestrian experience and integrate traffic-calming measures into streetscape
- Incorporate more benches along walkways
- Strengthen corridor between I-80 Truck Stop and the municipal portion of Walcott
- Expand the existing trail into a looped trail network that is part of a regional trail system
- Enhance the downtown streetscape
- Improve traffic circulation at Walcott Elementary and Middle School
- Enhance Parks: Water Tower Park and Victory Park



"It would be nice to be able to take a wheelchair and have a couple new picnic tables at these locations where the wheelchair could go up so that a person in the wheelchair is not excluded from being up close to the family."



Landscape Architect Meg Flenker listens to residents discuss their visions and desires for a community trail plan during the July 2019 design workshop held at the Walcott Legion.

Capturing the Walcott Vision

Based on the needs and desires of the local residents, as well as a detailed inventory of community resources, the design team developed transportation-based community improvement project concepts, which are illustrated in the following set of presentation boards:

1. Program Overview
2. Bioregional Assessments
3. Transportation Assets and Barriers Assessment
4. Transportation Inventory 1
5. Transportation Inventory 2
6. Goal Setting
7. Concept Plan Overview
8. Way-finding
9. Trail Master Plan
10. Trail Expansion & Trailhead
11. Water Tower Park
12. Victory Park
13. Traffic Calming
14. School Circulation
15. Downtown Concept Plan
16. Downtown Enhancements
17. Implementation

Walcott
Program Overview

Flenker Land Architecture Consultants, LLC

Landscape Architect: Meg K. Flenker, PLA, ASLA, CPESC, CPSWQ
Interns: Haoyue (Karma) Yang and Jue Jue (JJ) Wai Hin Thaw
Iowa State University | Trees Forever | Iowa Department of Transportation

