

Safe Routes to School West Union

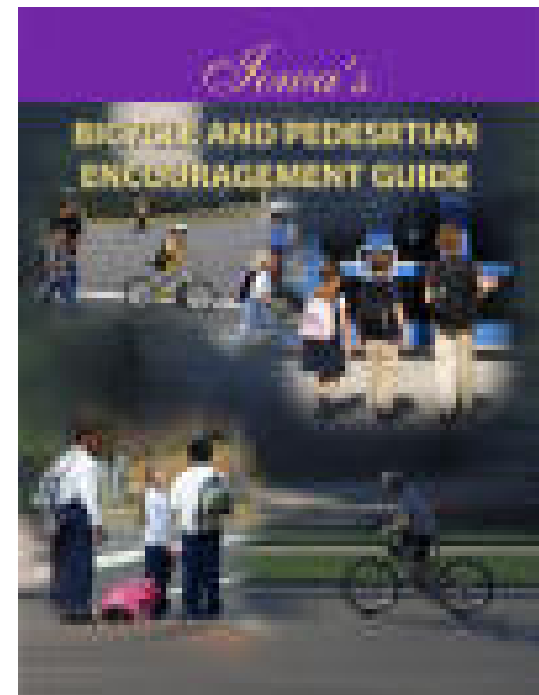
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Education: Barriers

- Distance
- Traffic volume along route to school
- Safety of intersection crossing
- Weather

Education: Solution

- Pedestrian and bicycle safety in education curriculum
- newsletter to convey information about :
 - SRTS
 - benefits of walking and biking
 - distance perception vs. reality



Encouragement: Barriers

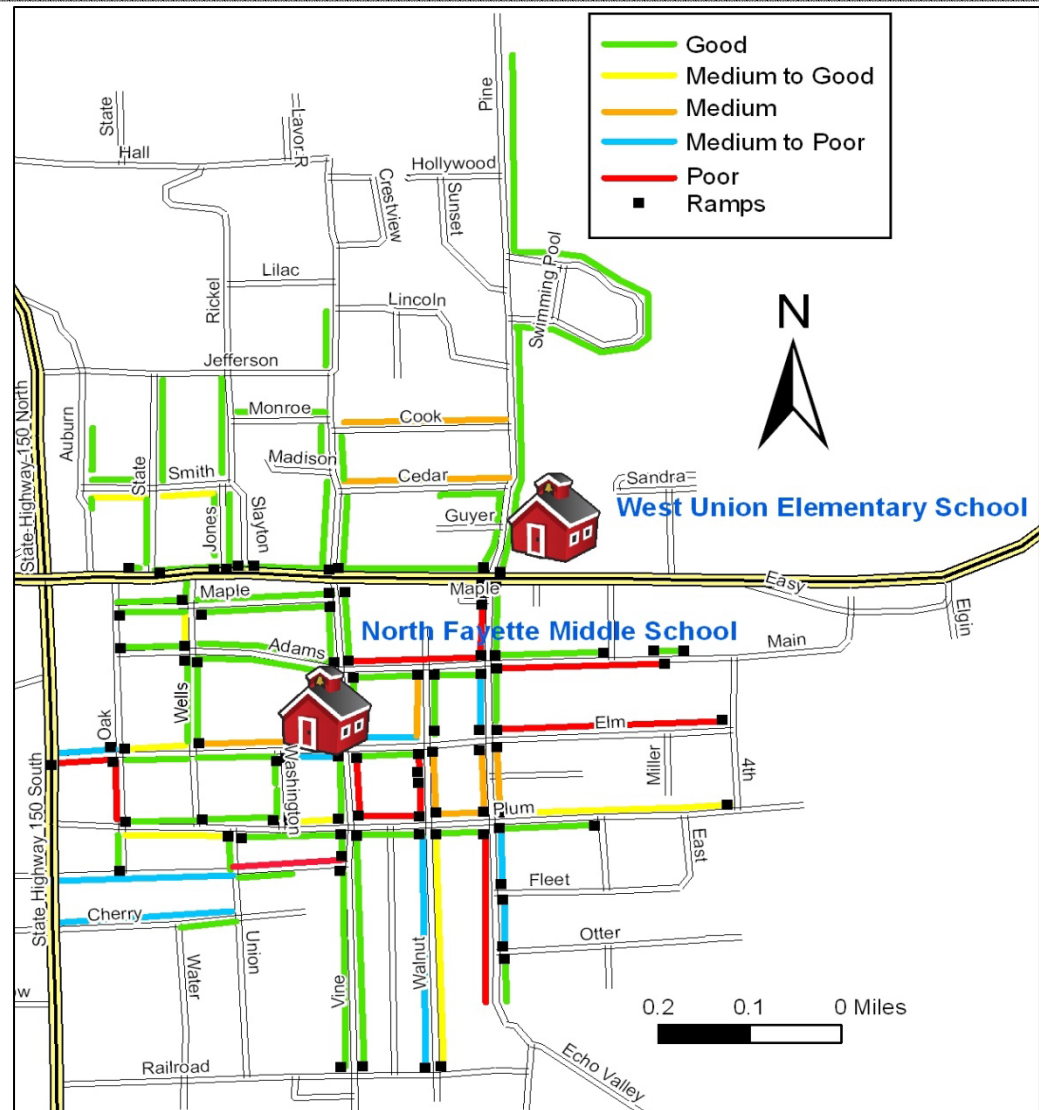
- Bus stopped at about 5 locations within the edge of the town.
- Students living within a distance 1- 2miles do not walk to school

Encouragement: Solution

- Form committee , identify volunteers to structure and implement SRTS
- Identify a route where student in West union can walk and structure a Walking school bus
- Provide students incentives: punch card, rewards
- Events: Participate on the international walk to school day in October
- Use Iowa Bicycle and pedestrian encouragement guide to come up with other strategies applicable to West Union

Engineering: Barriers

- Lack of Infrastructure
- Incomplete sidewalk system: Less than 23% of the road segments have sidewalks
- Mediocre to Poor sidewalks: 33%
- No ramps in north side



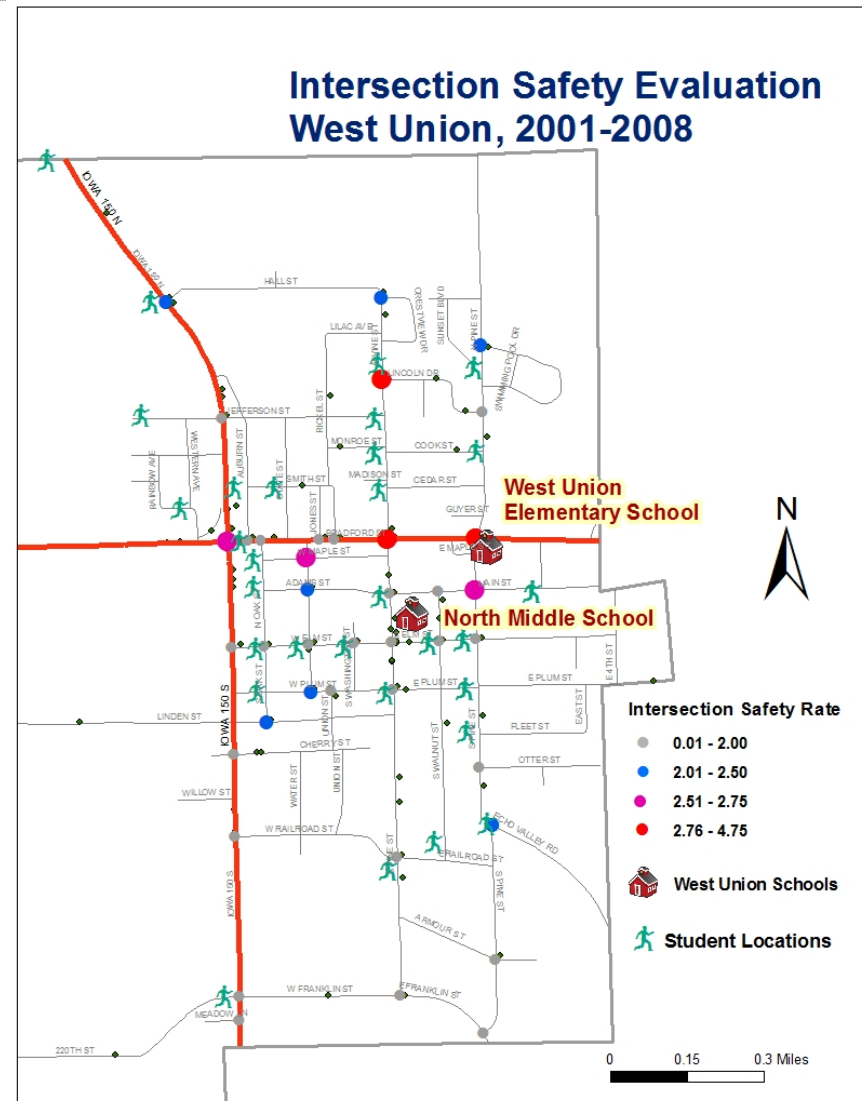
Engineering: Barriers

- Highway 150; Highway 18 and Pine
- Motorists speed along the highways despite signals
- Bicycles not allowed on sidewalks



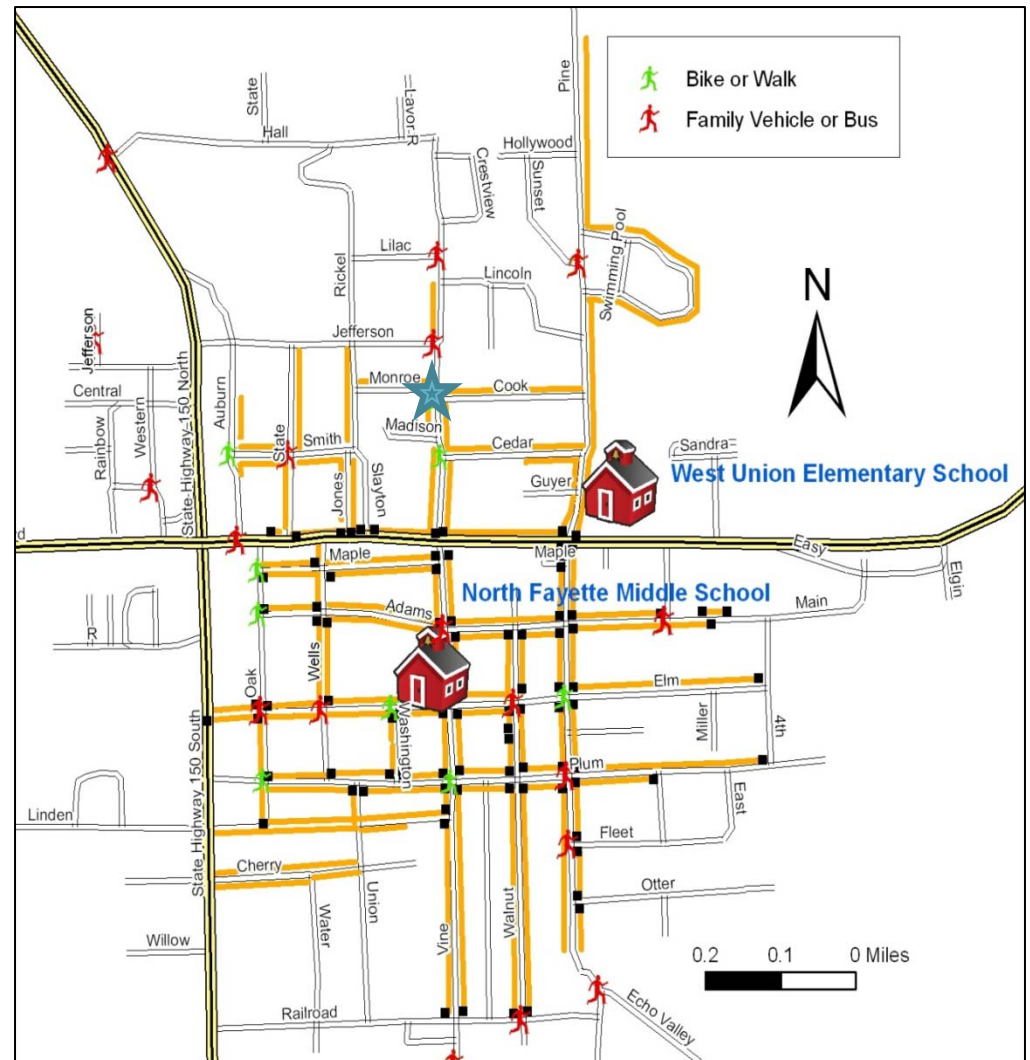
Engineering: Barriers

- High crash rates
 - Highway 18 and Pine
 - Highway 18 and Vine
 - Vine and Lincoln



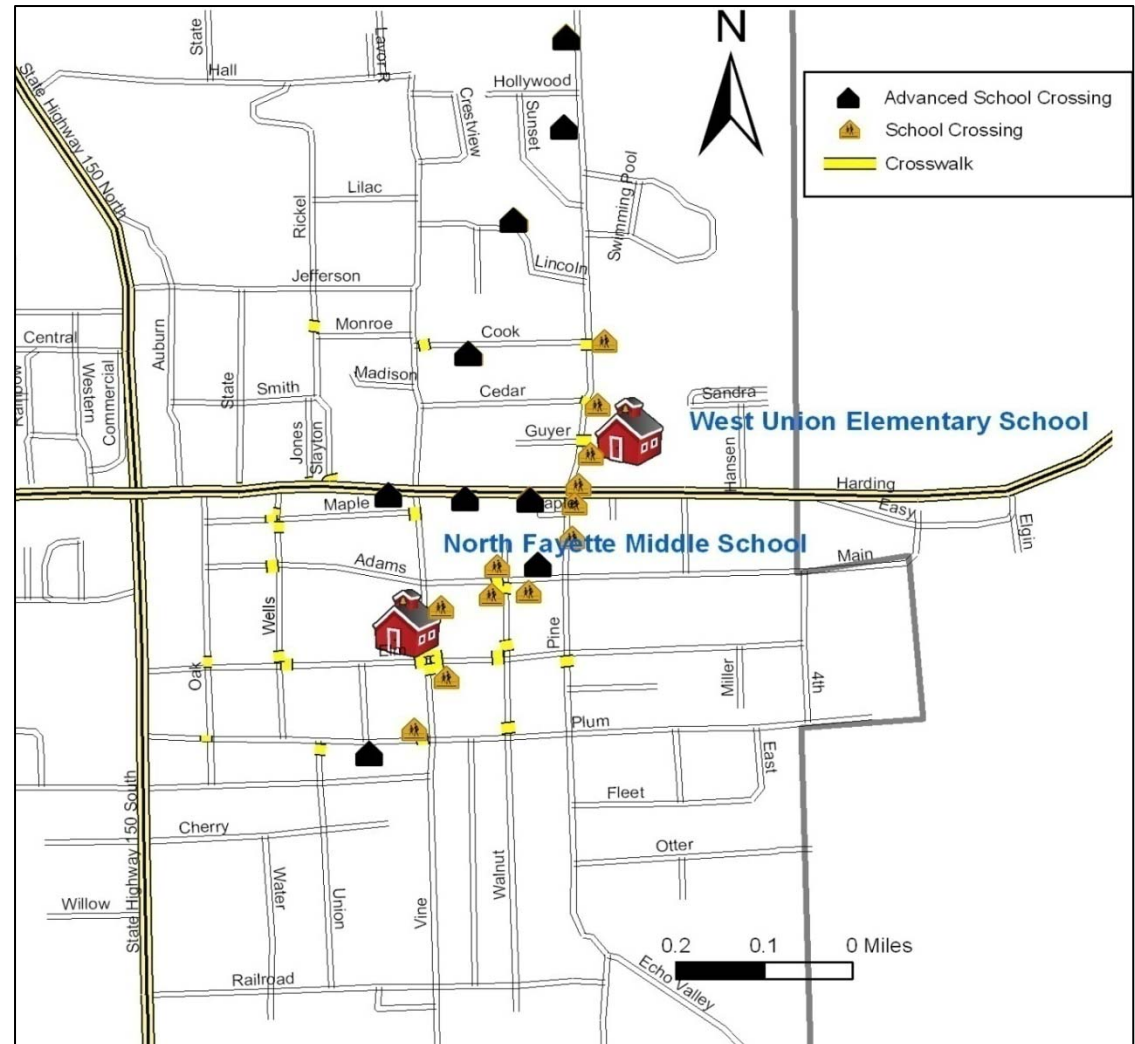
Engineering: No-cost Solutions

- Encourage children within 2 miles to walk to school
- Parents pick-up/ drop-off
- Modify bussing policy
- Allow bikes on sidewalk



Engineering: Low-cost Solutions

- Crossing guards & police
- Bike racks
- Repaint crosswalks if not visible
 - Minimum cost is \$100 per crosswalk



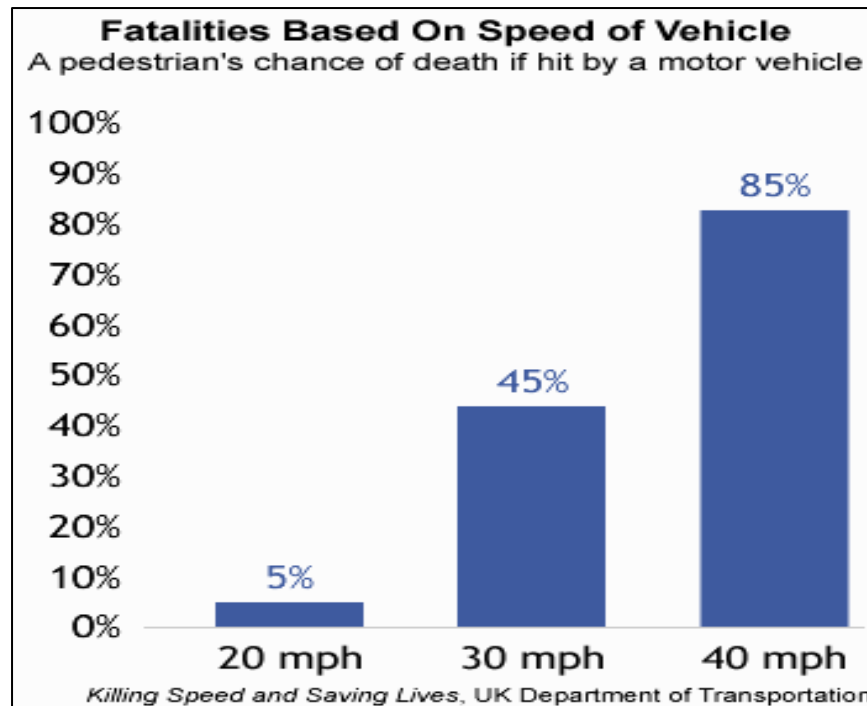
Engineering: Future Solution

- Upgrade mediocre and poor sidewalks
- Complete sidewalk system
 - Ramps and warning panels
- Supporting infrastructure: Speed Reduction zone, pedestrian signals
 - Cost: \$20,000 - \$140,000



Enforcement: Barriers

- No visible law enforcement in morning.
- High Traffic Speeds on Hwy 52.



Enforcement: Barrier



Enforcement: Solution



Mike Gynecki



David Parisi

Enforcement: Solution

- School Safety Zone
 - Zone should cover the entire school grounds and related areas that have school generated traffic
 - Loading and unloading zones should be clearly marked
 - Hazards identified and eliminated
 - Parents and children given frequent verbal and written reminders about the rules and procedures

Enforcement: Solution

- Pedestrian Sting Operations
 - Police officers pose as pedestrians
 - Quickly identifies offenders
 - Requires police resources
 - Progressive ticketing



Enforcement: Solution

- Safety Patrols
 - Students assist with student arrival and departure at school
- Advantages
 - Provides needed help
 - Builds student role models
- Considerations
 - Requires adult coordinator
 - Liability issues need to be discussed



Past school safety patrol officers include Presidents Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter

Enforcement: Solution

- Speed Trailers
 - Portable trailer that displays drivers' speeds
- Advantages
 - Does not require officer to be present
 - Provides immediate feedback
 - Relatively low cost
 - Can be moved to varying locations
- Considerations
 - Not a substitute for permanent action



Enforcement: Solution

- Neighborhood Speed Watch Programs
 - Citizens play an active role
 - Use of radar guns by residents
 - License plate number and speed recorded
 - Letters sent to violators
 - Requires volunteers and training
- Escort Programs
 - "Corner Captains"
 - Walking School Buses
 - Biking Trains
 - Crossing Guards



Evaluation

- Establish a SRTS Committee
- Performance Measures
 - Behavioral Survey
 - Infrastructure maintenance program

Questions????
