

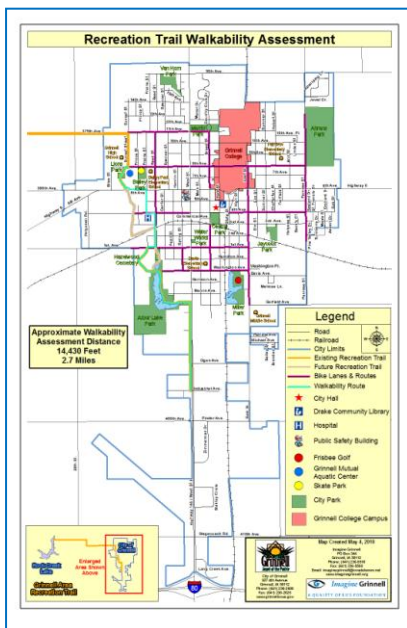


Walking with a Purpose Success Story: Poweshiek County

Imagine Grinnell completed a walkability assessment in Grinnell on May 20, 2010. Students, parents, city officials, school personnel and other community members participated along a 2.7 mile route beginning at the southeast corner of Grinnell High School, passing the new aquatic center continuing on Grinnell Area Recreation Trail south to Iowa Valley Community College, across US Highway 6 walking along the shoulder of the US Highway 6 and south passing by Grinnell Regional Medical Center using city streets, through the cemetery, along the east shore of Arbor Lake continuing south via the recreation trail along the heavily travelled Iowa Highway 146 to Industrial Ave., completing the walk south of town near the industrial park and several shopping destinations, including Wal-Mart.



During the assessment parents were concerned about the safety of their children and that they did not have safe passage across US Highway 6 and that there were not continuous sidewalks along the



route or convenient street crossings. Parents also commented on the need for additional landscaping along parts of the Grinnell Area Recreation Trail. Participants also noted areas of the walk that were lacking sidewalks and areas where the road was too wide to cross safely. They also observed drivers driving too fast, not yielding to pedestrians and ignoring traffic signals and stop signs. In the future, the results will be shared with the city manager and other interested influencers to determine next steps.