

US 52/Dyersville
Project Summary
U-STEP Application

The City of Dyersville requests funding assistance through the U-STEP program administered by the Iowa DOT to help address safety and operational issues along the US 52 corridor. The specific location is from the west side of US 52 at 12th Avenue to approximately 130 feet north of 10th Avenue. The primary issues impacting safety and operations are the existing driveway and parking stalls within the IDOT right-of-way at the Colonial Inn Motel property, and right-of-way encroachment along the frontage of Tauke Motors which presents potential crash obstacles from vehicles parked within the right-of-way.

With the construction of the proposed signal at 12th Avenue, the existing driveway at the motel presents a safety and operational problem for northbound left turning vehicles crossing the proposed southbound left turn lane at the 12th Avenue signal. The proposed U-STEP project would help alleviate this issue by removing the existing driveway and constructing a shared driveway at the south Tauke Motors driveway. This would shift northbound left turning traffic away from the southbound left turn lane. Combining the two driveways into one shared driveway would provide:

1. Reduced conflict points along a high traffic urban arterial corridor.
2. Eliminating two access points will help maintain a more consistent arterial roadway speed.
3. Reduced mid-block congestion allowing for better flow between traffic signals at 12th Ave and 8th Ave.
4. By combining the two access points, the City of Dyersville is helping to promote public safety and adherence to recommended access management guidelines by the Iowa DOT and FHWA where corridors with active access management experience a 25 to 31 percent reduction in severe crashes along urban arterials. (FHWA- SA-12-006)

The proposed U-STEP project would also improve corridor safety along the Colonial Inn and Tauke Motors properties by removing the parking stalls within the right-of-way at the motel and constructing raised islands and curb and gutter along the Tauke Motor's property. The frontage along Tauke Motors has seen vehicles parked within the Iowa DOT right-of-way in front of the dealership encroaching very close to the edge of the roadway. Not only is this a safety issue but also violates Iowa DOT policy of advertising and signage which is heavily restricted within the right-of-way. This work would benefit the US 52 corridor by converting this section of roadside to an urban cross section from the existing rural cross section. The existing ditch would be filled in, seeded and stormwater would be conveyed through curb and gutter and storm sewer intakes and pipes. The benefits provided by this work includes:

1. Enforcing the removal of obstacles within the clear zone, which according to Iowa LTAP's "Best Practices for Low-Cost Safety Improvements", reduces crash severity for lane departure crashes.
2. Maintaining safer, obstacle-free zones, which helps the DOT manage risk and reduce potential liability from crash-causing obstructions.
3. Iowa DOT explicitly addresses roadside safety in its design manual, prioritizing clear zones and handling of roadside objects in its planning.