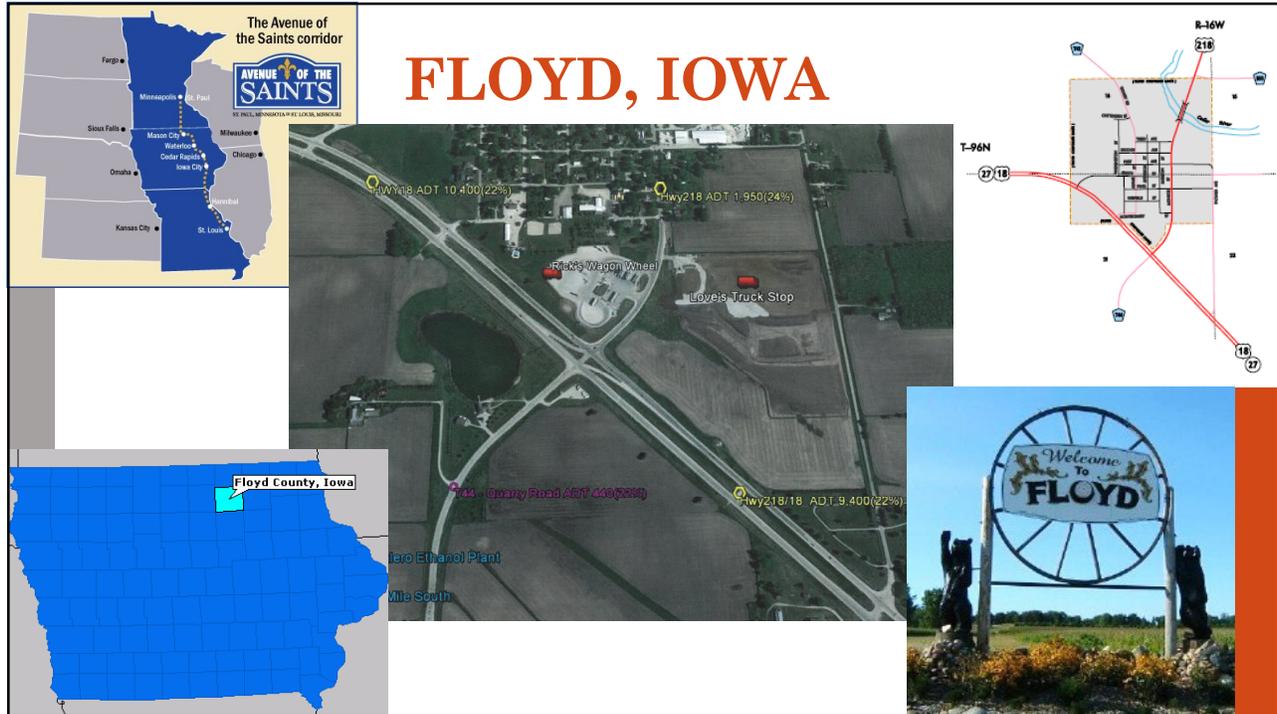


IA 27 / US 18/218 Intersection at Floyd, Iowa



Introductions

- Mark Kuhn, Floyd County Board of Supervisor
- Josh Byrnes, Iowa State Representative
- Trevis O'Connell, Mayor of Floyd
- Dusten Rolando, Floyd County Engineer
- Jeff Crooks, Floyd County Chief Deputy Sheriff



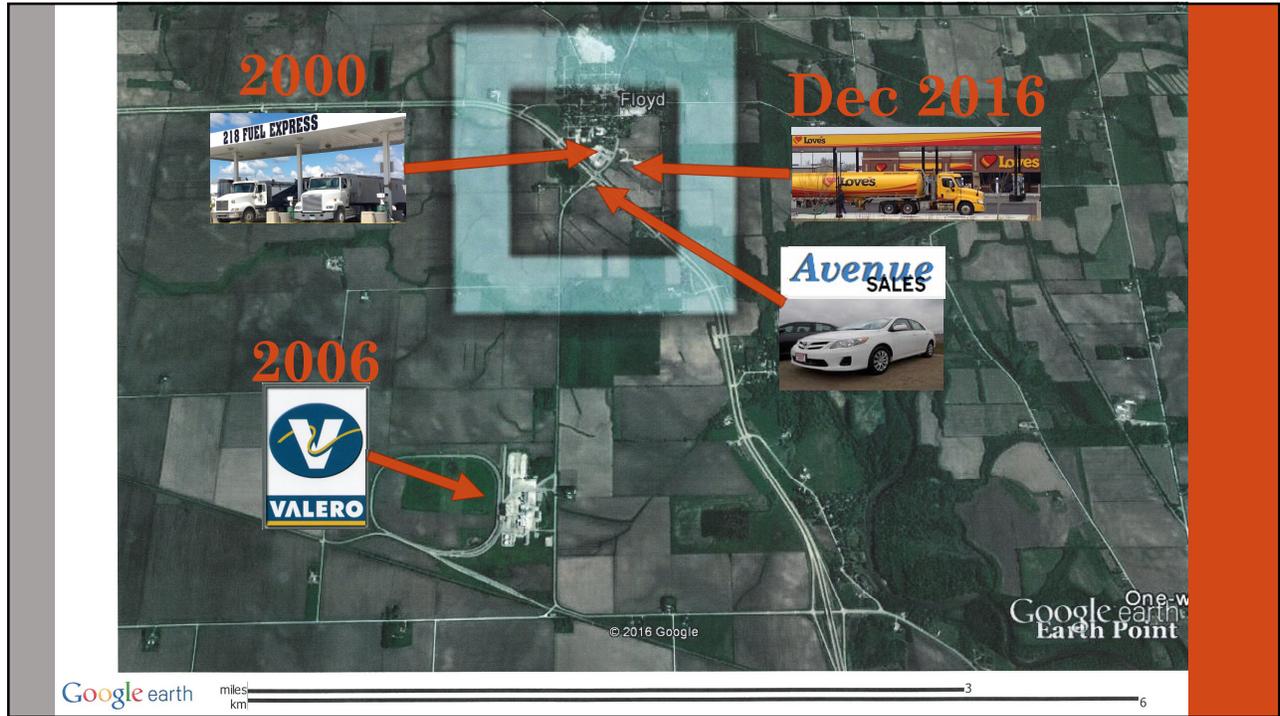
Floyd County's Economic Development near IA 27 / US 18/218

In 1999-2000 Floyd County welcomed the opening of the Avenue of Saints. The corridor brought with it opportunities for economic development for both businesses and consumers.

- In 2000 the 218 Fuel Express, an independently and locally owned and operated full-service truck stop, opened.
- In 2006 an ethanol plant opened approximately one mile south of the Floyd intersection.
- In 2012 Avenue Sales, a used car dealership was established on the southeast corner of the intersection.
- In December 2016 a Love's Truck Stop is scheduled to open.

These well-received commerce endeavors bring with it higher traffic activity, especially semi traffic, turning at this intersection.

[Video-Quarry Road to Intersection](#)





Valero Renewable Energy Truck Traffic – Monday through Friday

- 190 Corn Trucks (average) and up to 250 on a busy day
- 12+ Tractors pulling grain wagons
- 25+ Dried Distillers Grains & Wet Cake Trucks
- 10+ Delivery Trucks

225–300 trucks per day

Video-Monroe St to Intersection

Iowa DOT Reportable Crash History: 2006 – 2016 (partial year)

Year	County	Crashes						Injuries					
		Crashes	Fatal	Major	Minor	Poss/Unk	PDO	Injuries	Fatalities	Major	Minor	Possible	Unknown
2006	Local	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
2007	Local	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0
2008	Local	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
2009	Local	6	0	1	1	0	4	4	0	1	2	1	0
2010	Local	4	0	0	1	1	2	4	0	0	2	2	0
2011	Local	4	0	0	1	2	1	6	0	0	1	5	0
2012	Local	2	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	2	0
2013	Local	3	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	0
2014	Local	3	0	0	2	0	1	3	0	0	2	1	0
2015	Local	5	0	0	0	1	4	2	0	0	0	2	0
2016	Local	7	0	0	1	2	4	5	0	0	2	3	0
Totals:		40	0	1	7	8	24	30	0	1	12	17	

- The Statewide Crash Database only includes reported crashes with a minimum total damage of at least \$1500 ~~or~~ include a fatality or injury regardless of crash damage.
- When capturing expressway intersection crashes from the Statewide Crash Database, it is standard practice to capture all crashes within a 300 foot radius from the middle of the intersection.
- The Floyd County Sheriff's Office has identified a crash occurring on December 19, 2008 as a fatal crash. This crash was originally reported as a major injury in the Statewide Crash Database, and was not revised to upgrade the injury status to a fatal injury. Within the database, the crash was located 350 feet from the middle of the intersection; therefore it was not included in the initial report above.
- The fatal crash occurring on July 17, 2016, was not yet entered into the Statewide Crash Database at the time this report was run.

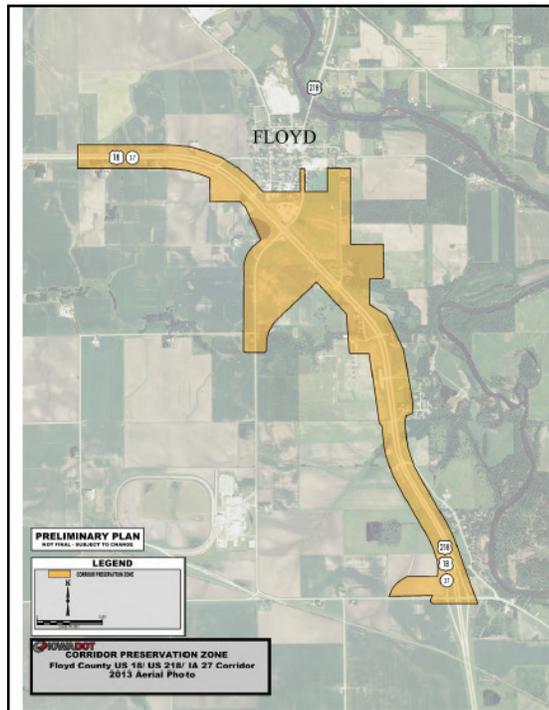
Floyd County Sheriff Dept Reported Accidents



2011-2016

- 19 Property Damage
- 16 Personal Injury (including deaths)

= 35 in 5 yrs/7 mos



Solution

Construction of a controlled intersection that includes an overpass over Iowa Highway 27.

This would minimize the decisions motorists need to make and dramatically improve the safety of the intersection.

Letter of Support

Iowa State Senator Mary Jo Wilhelm

MARY JO WILHELM
STATE SENATOR
Twenty-sixth District
Statehouse: (515) 281-3371
HOME ADDRESS
414 N Elm
Cresco, IA 52136
H: (563) 547-4156
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The Senate
STATE OF IOWA
Eighty-sixth General Assembly
STATEHOUSE
Des Moines, IA 50319

ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER
COMMITTEES
Appropriations
Economic Growth
Education
Human Resources
Local Government, *Vice Chair*
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Appropriations Subcommittee, *Chair*

Please consider this question: "Are there any other intersections in Iowa where two state highways meet without a controlled interchange?"

August 9, 2016

Dear Iowa DOT Commissioners:

Due to a scheduling conflict, I am unable to attend the meeting today and have asked Mark Kuhn, Floyd County Supervisor, to hand deliver this letter.

I am sure you are aware of the intersection in Floyd where Iowa Highway 18 and U.S. 218 meet. This intersection has long been a concern for residents of the area and everyone who uses it. This dangerous intersection has often been discussed since Highway 18 went to four lanes.

I recognize that the DOT has tried several times to fix this problem. However, none of these changes have succeeded in making this intersection safe for drivers. The construction of a second convenience store and gas station near this intersection has increased these safety concerns.

Today, I ask the Commission to consider creating a controlled interchange at this intersection. This is the only way to really fix the serious safety concerns. I also ask the Commission to include this project in its next five-year plan.

Please consider this question: "Are there any other intersections in Iowa where two state highways meet without a controlled an interchange?"

I can't think of any. Even if there is one out there somewhere, it certainly does not have this intersection's history of death and destruction.

Before any other lives are lost, please consider building an interchange at this intersection.

Sincerely,

Mary Jo Wilhelm
State Senator

Letter of Support

Iowa State Representative Todd Prichard

Todd Prichard
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Fifty-Second District
Statehouse: (515) 281-3221
email: todd.prichard@legis.iowa.gov
HOME ADDRESS
117 Ferguson Street
Charles City, Iowa 50616
(641) 220-0798



House of Representatives
State of Iowa
Eighty-Fifth General Assembly
STATEHOUSE
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

COMMITTEES
Agriculture
State Government
Ways and Means
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
Justice System

"Approximately 120 concerned citizens attended [the forum]...Numerous citizens testified to witnessing horrific accidents at this intersection."

Dear Director Trombino,

Please find enclosed with this letter petitions signed by citizens along with supporting letters asking the Iowa Department of Transportation to improve the intersection of Highways 218 and 18 at Floyd, Iowa. I would note that nearly 3,000 people alone have signed the enclosed online petition.

I know that the Chair of the House Transportation Committee, Rep Byrnes, has been in contact with you regarding this intersection. It is my opinion that this intersection is in need of improvement to make the intersection safe. There is already a large amount of traffic through the intersection as well as commercial activity that makes the intersection hazardous. For example, there is an active ethanol plant immediately south of the intersection. The associated traffic with the plant and regular heavy truck traffic create a dangerous situation for trucks slowing to turn or attempting to cross over the fast moving east and west bound lanes of traffic. Additionally, there is an existing fuel and truck stop at the interchange with a second Loves brand truck stop under construction. The addition of the new truck stop will undoubtedly increase the number of truck traffic as well as slow moving vehicle hazards at the intersection. In fact, as recently as July 17th, a motorcyclist was killed in a collision with a semi-truck. I fear that the already high number of accidents and near misses at the intersection will only increase with the completion of the Loves truck stop.

Finally, Rep Byrnes, Senator Wilhelm and I conducted an open forum meeting with the community regarding the interchange. Approximately one hundred and twenty concerned citizens attended the meeting to voice their concern over the safety of this intersection. Numerous citizens testified to witnessing horrific accidents at this intersection. All who spoke at the forum agreed that the intersection is in need of improvement from a design stand point. Further, it seems unfair to burden this small community with such a notoriously dangerous intersection.

I request that the DOT consider immediate improvements to this intersection as well as long term solutions to protect the safety of this intersection.

Sincerely,

Todd Prichard
State Representative
House District 52

Cc: Chair, DOT Board of Commissioners

Letter of Support

**Charles City Area
Development Corporation
Executive Director
Timothy Fox**

“In the purview of economic development, the intersection is inefficient. There are long wait times for both commercial and private vehicle operations. The imposition of social costs impedes the construction of commerce in Floyd County, Iowa.”

401 North Main Street
Charles City, Iowa 50616

www.charlescityia.com
2 August 2016

Iowa Transportation Commission
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010

Dear Commissioners:

Thank you for accepting commentary from local and regional observers concerning the Iowa Highway 27/U.S. Highway 218 intersection at Floyd, Iowa.

The Board of Directors of the Charles City Area Development Corporation holds the following statements to be pertinent concerning the intersection:

- It is structurally unsafe from a traffic flow count. The thoroughfare strives to accommodate significantly more traffic than it was designed for – a condition evident since the day of opening. Opening of the Love's Travel Center at Floyd this fall will only compound this situation.
- It is structurally unsafe in that there are excess and multiple decision points whereby each driver must process information in a split second. That is, there are too many conceivable traffic operations within a confined space to guarantee assignment of right-of-way.
- In the purview of economic development, the intersection is inefficient. There are long wait times for both commercial and private vehicle operators. This imposition of social costs impedes the construction of commerce in Floyd County, Iowa.
- We feel that the accident statistics compiled by Iowa DOT substantially underrepresented the actual number of collisions, given very exacting standards as to what constitutes a "collision." The DOT statistics belie testimony of the Floyd County Sheriff and Floyd County Deputy Sheriffs.

We appreciate the fact that the Iowa DOT has attempted to make improvements to this intersection after we brought it to the Commission's attention on 14 August 2007. However, these piecemeal efforts have proven woefully marginal in improving public safety.

One conceivable short-term improvement would be installation of stop lights. However, DOT staff has indicated that motorists tend not to pay attention to them in rural areas.

The sole plausible solution is construction of a controlled intersection at Floyd, Iowa. Having controlled ingress and egress points minimizes the decisions motorists need to make and would dramatically improve safety at this junction.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,



Timothy S. Fox, MPP, CED, EDFP, PCED, Executive Director

Serving all of Floyd County and beyond: Charles City • Colwell • Floyd • Marble Rock • Nashua • Nora Springs • Rockford • Rudd



641.228.3020
FAX: 641.228.4744

email: ccad@charlescityia.com

Letter of Support

**Floyd County
Board of Supervisors
Mark Kuhn
Roy Schwickerath
Doug Kamm**

“The Board of Supervisors believe the best possible solution to the clear and present danger that exists is the construction of a controlled intersection that includes an overpass over Iowa Highway 27.”



Floyd County Board of Supervisors

Mark Kuhn • Doug Kamm • Roy Schwickerath

August 3, 2016

Paul Trombino III
Director, Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50010

RE: Highway IA 27/US 218/18 intersection

Dear Mr Trombino:

The Floyd County Board of Supervisors would like to express our concerns and offer a solution regarding the unsafe intersection at Iowa Highway 27/Highways 218 and 18 at Floyd, Iowa.

On Tuesday, August 9, State Representative Josh Byrnes, the mayor of the city of Floyd, the Floyd County engineer, the chief deputy sheriff of Floyd County and myself are scheduled on the agenda of the Iowa Transportation Commission to discuss what we believe is a clear and present danger to the motoring public at this intersection.

In 1999-2000 Floyd County welcomed the opening of the Avenue of Saints. The corridor brought with it opportunities for economic development and improved traffic flow for drivers. In 2000, the 218 Fuel Express truck stop opened on the northwest corner of the intersection. In 2007, an ethanol plant opened approximately one mile south of the interchange. In 2012, Avenue Sales, a used car dealer opened business at the southeast corner of the intersection. These commercial endeavors brought with them significantly more semi-truck traffic than the intersection was designed for.

According to Valero Renewables, the nearby ethanol plant, an average of 190 corn semi-trucks, and dozens of tractors pulling grain wagons deliver 43 million bushels of corn annually to the plant. In addition, approximately 25 corn by-product semi-trucks and 10 delivery trucks travel to and from the plant daily from Monday through Friday. Much of this semi-truck traffic and some of the tractor traffic goes through the intersection twice a day, both loaded and unloaded.

Semi-truck traffic and other vehicles will only become more congested at the intersection when the Love's Travel Center truck stop, currently under construction on the northeast corner of the intersection, is opened in December, 2016.

The Board of Supervisors appreciates the willingness of the Iowa DOT's past attempts to make improvements to the intersection. However these changes have resulted in a situation that is very confusing at best, and completely inadequate in improving safety at the intersection.

The videos included in our presentation to the Commission show there are too many decision points located in a very limited area where the motorist must make split-second decisions regarding the determination of which vehicle has the right-of-way.

The Board of Supervisors believe the best possible solution to the clear and present danger that exists is the construction of a controlled access intersection that includes an overpass over Iowa Highway 27. This safety improvement needs to be added the State's 5-year construction plan as soon as possible. This solution would minimize the decisions motorists need to make and dramatically improve the safety of the intersection.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns and possible solutions.

Kind regards,



Mark A. Kuhn, Chair
Floyd County Board of Supervisors

FLOYD COUNTY COURT HOUSE
101 S. Main, Suite 302, Charles City, IA 50616

Tele: (641) 257-6129; Fax: (641) 257-6112
Website: www.floydia.org

**Thank you for
consideration of our
concerns and
possible solutions.**

