**A Four-to-Three Lane Story**

2019 Iowa Transportation Conference

**Typical Iowa “Road Diet”**

**Before**

**After**

Source: Road Diet Informational Guide, Federal Highway Administration

**Three-Lane Road Benefits**

- Continuous Left-turn Lane
- Speed Management
- Extra Space
- Improved Access
  - Turns don’t impede traffic flow
- Prudent Drivers
  - Set speed, eliminates passing
- Parking
  - and other travel modes
- Improved Safety
  - for all Users

**Selected Iowa Urban Highway Crash Rates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Crashes per Hundred Million Vehicle Miles Traveled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waverly Iowa 3</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clear Lake US 18</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cresco Iowa 9</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa Urban Average</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cresco Iowa 9</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waverly Iowa 3</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clear Lake US 18</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Three-Lane Roads History**

- Two urban design options in the “early days”
- First 2-3 widening in 1970s
- First 4-3 conversion in 1990s
- 4-3 conversions off/on over 20+ yrs
- Typically spurred by overlay project
- Many potential locations stuck in status quo

**Statewide Screening Effort**

- Used DOT databases to identify potential conversion opportunities
- 223 potential segments identified
- Shared with DOT districts, published on web
Screening Report

FHWA Mythbusters

Information flyers debunk road diet myths

Many Iowans skeptical of national findings

“Our town is unique...”

Ongoing/Future Efforts

Iowa DOT Three-Lane Video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=naCbw7lwcVw

Statewide inventory of three-lane locations
Evaluate impacts emergency response times
Design guidance updates ensure three-lane is presented as valid option
discuss flexibility of lane widths

Project Area

Project Location
Perry, IA

Project Area

Downtown Perry business center
Wells Ave/Hwy 44 Intersection
What spurred the Perry Project – Phase 1?
- Outdated Infrastructure
- Safety Concerns
- Major Trail Crossing
- Downtown Revitalization

What spurred the Perry Project – Phase 2?
- It Works!
- Traffic safety & Pedestrian safety is a community issue
- Hwy 144 Crash Rate is 3X State Average
- Types of Crashes are types correctable by 3-Lane: Rear-end, Broadside, Angle

Toolbox
- Federal Highway (FHWA) Resources
- Iowa DOT Resources
- AARP Handout

Extra Outreach Approach
- Get Facts out First
- Use Tools in Toolbox
- Community Connection thru Media Outlets
- Educating Policy Makers
- Open Houses
- Consistent Message

Steps we are taking.
- Council Workshops
- Project Specific Website on City
- Work with Perry News, Perry Chief, Raccoon Valley Radio
- Open House
Prepare city council first

Provide “right” amount of education

Engage media early

Provide info the way the people want—not just an open house

Things to Consider

Thank you! Questions?