



February 2019

Volume 131

Robins Road Study Redevelopment and Public Improvement Project

“The Robins Road corridor has the potential to be a community asset and example of how thoughtful design and future planning can reinvigorate Hiawatha. The corridor does not currently create a great first impression for the community. It doesn’t represent the character of a thriving mix-use corridor, the presence of significant professional corporations and industries, or community pride.” (Planning Submittal, Bolton and Menk 2018)

The City of Hiawatha has determined Robins Road is a key component of the creation of a “downtown” within the community and is in need of public improvements. To address these issues a study has been commissioned to plan the revitalization of the area along Robins Road from Boyson Road to the new intersection at North Center Point Road. The scope of the study includes:

STREETSCAPE ENHANCEMENT

Gateway Entrance

First impressions are important! Whether it’s drawing people to the civic campus to the south, to potential corporate employers along the corridor such as GoDaddy, to weekend visitors coming to shop the district, people are paying attention when they come into town. The streetscape components of landscaping, street lights and utility locations create the initial first impression.



Pedestrian and Bicycle Accommodations

The Robins Road corridor is currently not favorable from a pedestrian or bicycling perspective. One of the primary project goals is to improve pedestrian and bicycle circulation and ADA accommodations by identifying preferred routes, connections to existing or future trails, and improved access and safety. This corridor should promote pedestrian circulation and place greater emphasis on the opportunities for people to walk, run, bike, and navigate the community outside a vehicle.

ROBINS ROAD CORRIDOR REDESIGN
HIAWATHA, IA

BOLTON & MENK #Hiawatha!

Urban Renewal Concepts

A baseline inventory diagram of land use will be undertaken for the corridor. Key locations of potential urban revitalization will be identified by the advisory committee and studied for the master plan document. Key items highlighted within the preferred plan include:

- Delineating future land uses based on trends that may need to be accommodated along the corridor to promote a more robust economy and development pattern.
- Defining a variety of land uses and creating guidelines that fit these uses into the corridor in a harmonious and supportive way.
- Detailing how buildings interact with fronting and side streets for our Design Guidelines including the scale, massing, and form of various building typologies based on land use, density, urban form, and position along the corridor.
- Addressing how properties work together to help access management and parking issues.
- Promoting landscape design to create a higher level of place, character, environmental sustainability, stormwater management and urban heat island mitigation.
- Providing for more walkable and mixed use patterns where appropriate.
- Accommodating and promoting opportunities for gateway properties.

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Public Participation and Input

The study process includes a steering committee made up of the general public, affected property owners, elected officials and city staff who have been meeting monthly with design representatives from Bolton and Menk. This group has been appointed to provide feedback and give direction to the design team.

Along with the steering committee input, opportunities for the general public interaction have been created through public meetings and internet comment availability. The introductory open house was in December and the progress open house is in February with a final plan recommendation to be presented on May 16, 2019 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the lower level of Hiawatha City Hall. For those who choose the internet option, the public can find the Robins Road Study information link on the City of Hiawatha website: www.hiawatha-iowa.com and are invited to comment on the associated link: www.hiawatha-iowa.com/requests.

Join us as we continue to advance our “Beautiful Hiawatha” vision!

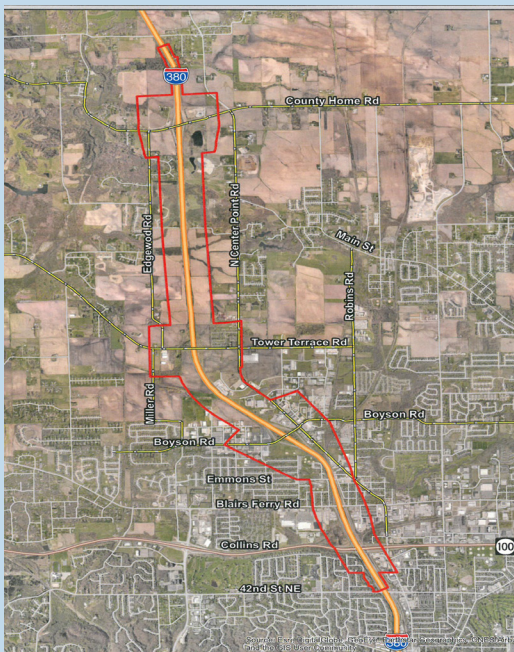
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**ROBINS ROAD STUDY
FINAL PLAN
PRESENTATION**

WHEN
May 16th, 2019
5pm - 7pm

WHERE
Lower Level of City Hall
101 Emmons Street, Hiawatha, IA 52233

Iowa DOT Reschedules Public Hearing for February 28, 2019



The Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) will hold a public hearing Thursday, February 28, 2019 to discuss the proposed improvements to I-380 between Collins Road/Iowa 100 and County Home Road, which includes 6-laning I-380, rebuilding the Boyson Road interchange and adding an interchange at Tower Terrace Road. The completed environmental assessment will also be available.

The public hearing has been rescheduled from the January date and will be conducted using a combined open forum and formal format. During the open forum, from 5:00 PM to 5:45 PM, IDOT staff will be present to informally discuss the project. After the open forum, a formal presentation will be displayed beginning at 5:45 PM and followed by a question and answer session.

Persons wishing to make a formal statement or ask questions will need to note that at the time of registration. There will be a three minute limit per speaker during the question and answer session. Oral and written statements will be accepted during both the open forum and the formal public hearing. To submit a comment online about this project, go to: <https://bit.ly/iowadot9212223>.

Hiawatha Approves Contract for Railroad Quiet Zone Study

The Council approved an engineering study to prepare a project that could install new signals and gates at the Emmons Street railroad crossing. The intent is to replace the current railroad flashers and install the needed protection that would allow the construction of a new railroad quiet zone at this location. The railroad crossing at North Center Point Road was constructed in accordance with quiet zone requirements when repaved in 2013.

Anderson Bogert Engineers will review the current railroad crossings and determined the best process to start the discussions with the City, the railroad, and the Federal Railroad Authority. We need a study completed in order to receive approval to move forward with the planning/design phase of a railroad quiet zone implementation. This is just the planning phase and will not include any construction plans or agreements with any railroad agencies or contractors.

The study area includes four railroad crossings; the Blairs Ferry Crossing, the Emmons Street crossing, the North Center Point crossing, Robins Road crossing, and the Boyson Road crossing. The schedule is to have an approved plan by November of this year.

Any questions, please contact the City Engineer at jbender@hiawatha-iowa.com.



Hiawatha Council Action

The Hiawatha City Council meeting minutes may be obtained on-line at www.hiawatha-iowa.com/government/city-council-documents/ or by request to the City Clerk's Office at City Hall at 319-393-1515 ext. 524.

Hiawatha Library Hires New Staff

The Hiawatha Public Library is excited to introduce our new Library Circulation Clerk, Kira Brennan! Kira grew up in Indiana, graduated from Purdue University and went on to study library science at the University of North Texas. While living in the Dallas area, she started her library career at UNT Dallas College of Law Library. Kira and her husband moved to Iowa in March 2018 to be closer to extended family. They love the Corridor community very much, especially the kind people and amazing libraries! Now, when she's not working at Hiawatha Public Library, Kira can be found reading, crocheting, thrift shopping, or taking her dog Ruby to the dog park. Stop in to the library soon and help welcome Kira to Hiawatha!



Hiawatha Fire Department Hires New Staff

Two Firefighter Paramedics recently joined the ranks of the Hiawatha Fire Department. These paramedics will assist our existing volunteer crews by helping staff the ambulances and provide additional support to the volunteer duty crews.



David Husmann has spent 11 years at Monticello Fire and is currently one of their instructors. He has worked at Anamosa Ambulance Service the past five years; three years as an EMT and two years as a medic. He is a certified firefighter, fire instructor and paramedic. David is married to his wife Jesse who is also a paramedic and together they have a nine month old daughter Eliza. David's son Elijah is nine years old. He enjoys hunting and fishing with his son, and spending time with his family. Prior to working in EMS, he worked as a police officer. He has an AA in Criminal Justice and is a graduate of the ILEA.

Sean Dietrich is from Mount Vernon, where his family has lived for four generations. He is a third generation firefighter. Sean has a seven month old son with his girlfriend of three years, Mamie. Mamie is an Occupational Therapy Assistant and works here in Hiawatha. He has been on Mt. Vernon Fire Department for 12 years and is currently a lieutenant. He is a certified paramedic, firefighter, and instructor. In addition, he has a variety of other training including Ice Rescue and Rope. He worked for Area Ambulance the past six and a half years, the last year and a half as a paramedic, where he was a field training officer. In his free time he enjoys wood working, camping, and jigsaw puzzles. He is also an Eagle Scout.



WE NEED VOLUNTEERS.

Seven out of ten firefighters and emergency responders are volunteers and the Hiawatha Fire Department needs more volunteers like you. We will be taking our next group of volunteer firefighters in March and we need local residents willing to serve.

Being a Volunteer Firefighter Is About One Thing - Heart. It's not what you look like, what degree you have or where you come from. If you have the heart to serve the Hiawatha Fire Department in a way that few can, you have everything we need. We invite you to join a family that'll always have your back and train you up to serve our community in ways few can. We may even give you our secret chili recipe. Learn more at MakeMeAFirefighter.org or www.HiawathaFire.com.

**FIGHTERS WANTED.
FIREFIGHTERS THAT IS.**

February Calendar

- 06 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 11 History Committee Meeting 1:30 PM
- 11 Board of Adjustment Meeting 5:30 PM
- 12 Parks Commission Meeting 6:00 PM
- 12 Library Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 13 Council meeting airs 6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON) 7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 18 Holiday - City Hall Closed
- 19 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM
- 20 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 25 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM
- 27 Council meeting airs 6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON) 7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)

March Calendar

- 06 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 11 History Committee Meeting 1:30 PM
- 11 Board of Adjustment Meeting 5:30 PM
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Hiawatha 2018 Building Activity

The City of Hiawatha had another productive year in building construction. In 2018, we permitted nearly 30 single/two family dwellings along with a triplex. These numbers match our residential growth for the past three years; 2015 really kicked off our growth in housing. 2008 was the year of the housing market crash during those years new housing values fall below \$3 million annually.

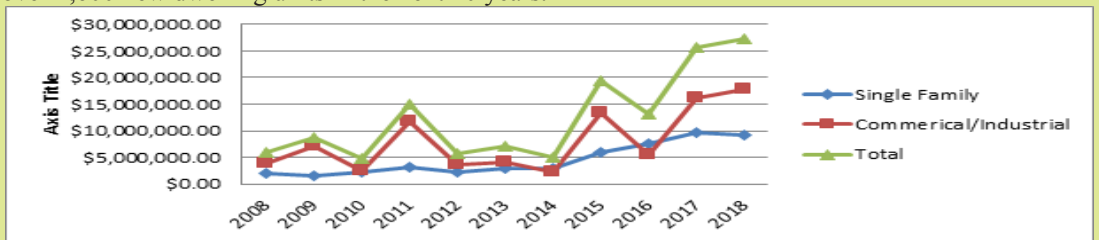
NEW BUILDINGS PERMITS								
Calendar	Single Family		Multi-Family			Commerical/Industrial		Total
Year	Permits	Value	Permits	Units	Value	Permits	Value	Value
2016	28	\$7,693,868.64	0	0	\$0.00	10	\$5,454,930.00	\$13,148,798.64
2017	29	\$9,559,532.46	0	0	\$0.00	7	\$16,182,106.08	\$25,741,638.54
2018	29	\$9,172,103.00	1	3	\$447,469.00	9	\$17,686,262.00	\$27,305,834.00

Single family residential growth has room to continue as an additional plat is scheduled to be ready for development in 2019. This will add to our four existing

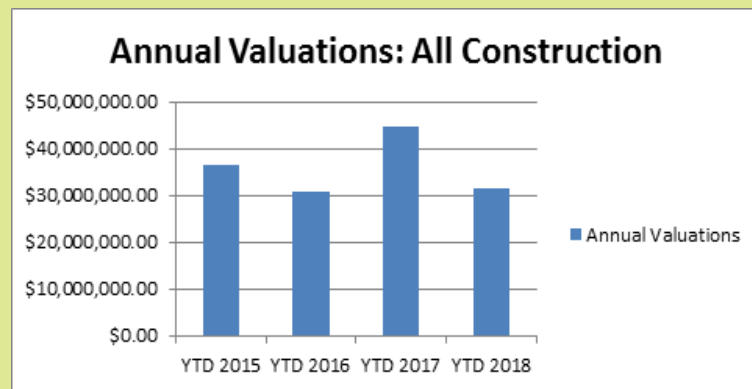
residential developments in various stages of completion: Heritage Green - 85%, Dell Ridge - 60%, Rolling Prairie - 25% and Pines at Turtle Creek - 95%.

Future residential growth in Hiawatha is predicted to continue to increase. Our studies from the Comprehensive Plan 2036 indicated we are in need of additional housing units in nearly all price ranges. The study noted Hiawatha is especially lacking 50% of the potential essential housing units for our growing population. This translates as a need for over 500 additional units. Over all, Hiawatha is predicted to need over 1,600 new dwelling units in the next 20 years.

The commercial building in Hiawatha is also continuing to expand. Over the past four years new commercial construction has averaged over \$12 million in valuations with a total of 36 new



buildings. The previous four years; 2011-2014 averaged \$6 million in valuations. The new development at Peck's Landing and the new construction along North Center Point Road and Stamy are an indicators our commercial construction is staying strong.



Overall Hiawatha is continuing to grow. Our total construction valuations have exceeded \$30 million for four years running! Our records from the past 10 years show a steady growth pattern that has been its strongest most recently. The mix of residential and commercial construction indicates Hiawatha is experiencing a healthy balanced expansion keeping our community strong, vibrant and beautiful.

Don't Miss the Hiawatha Earth Day Collection/Recycling Event on April 27, 2019

The City of Hiawatha is celebrating Earth Day by hosting our annual collection/recycling event at the Hiawatha Maintenance Facility at 1410 Robins Road.

The 2018 Earth Day event is scheduled for **Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM**. Load up your car and stop down to the Hiawatha Maintenance Facility at **1410 Robins Road**.



Hiawatha History Commission Presents

The Hiawatha Library has always been there to foster the LOVE OF READING! Lovey Bear, a mascot from St. Luke's Hospital made a guest appearance some time between 1983-1998.

DO YOU HAVE PHOTOS FOR THE HIAWATHA HISTORY BOOK? Call Pat at 319-721-9730 or email at se_me@live.com



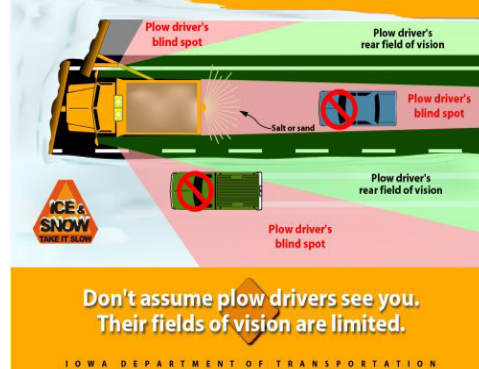
Safe Travel Around Snowplows 101

Tips shared by the Iowa Department of Transportation and the Hiawatha Public Works Department

- Don't crowd the plow. Maintenance vehicles plow far and wide - sometimes very wide. The front plow extends several feet in front of the truck and may cross the centerline and shoulders during plowing operations.
- Don't tailgate or stop too close behind snowplows. Snowplows are usually spreading deicing materials from the back of the truck. They may need to stop or take evasive action to avoid stranded vehicles. If you find yourself behind a snowplow, stay behind it or use caution when passing. The road behind a snowplow will be safer to drive on.
- Watch for snowplows operating in either lane of travel or in tandem.
- Never pass a plow truck on the right side. Be extremely cautious when passing on the left.
- Don't travel beside a plow for long periods. When plowing through a snowdrift or packed snow, the impact can move the truck sideways.
- Snowplows can create a cloud of snow that can reduce your visibility to zero in less time than you can react. Drive smart. Never drive into a snow cloud - it could conceal a snowplow.
- Snowplows travel much slower than the posted speeds while removing snow and ice from the roads. When you spot a plow, allow plenty of time to slow down.
- A snowplow operator's field of vision is restricted. You may see them, but they may not see you.
- Plows turn and exit the road frequently. Give them plenty of room.
- Snowplows will make two passes on each side of the street. To save yourself some work, don't clear the end of your driveway until the second pass has been made.
- **Never place your driveway or parking lot snow onto the street. Section 135.12 City Code. It is unlawful for any person to throw, push, or place or cause to be thrown, pushed or placed, any ice or snow from private property, sidewalks, or driveways onto the traveled way of a street or alley so as to obstruct gutters, or impede the passage of vehicles upon the street or alley or to create a hazardous condition therein; except where, in the cleaning of large commercial drives in the business district it is absolutely necessary to move the snow onto the street or alley temporarily, such accumulation shall be removed promptly by the property owner or agent. Arrangements for the prompt removal of such accumulations shall be made prior to moving the snow.**

Use caution when approaching a snowplow. Snowplows typically operate at 25-35 mph.

Never pass on the shoulder side of a plow. Plows will move snow to the shoulders.



Don't assume plow drivers see you. Their fields of vision are limited.

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Snow Ordinance Reminder

Snow ordinances go into effect when the National Weather Service (NWS) predicts a snowfall in which three (3) or more inches of snow is expected. While the Snow Ordinance is in effect, **there is no parking on any city street**. Vehicles found parked in violation of this ordinance will receive a **\$25** parking ticket and/or be impounded. During overnight snow removal operations, vehicles found in violation on City streets will be towed. The Snow Ordinance declaration is sent to all the local media including but not limited to: KGAN (Channel 2), KCRG (Channel 9) and KWVL (Channel 7). The declaration will also be posted on our City website, www.hiawatha-iowa.com, to those who opted in to our "GET ALERTS" program and social media. Your cooperation is appreciated.

REMEMBER - Don't park in the street if:

- The 24 hour (or less) prediction by the NWS is for three (3) or more inches of snow.
- Three (3) or more inches of snow has fallen and/or your street has not been cleared.

When in doubt about parking, move your vehicle off the street.

City will **NOT** conduct snowfall clearing operations on all streets for a snowfall of less than two (2) inches.

Sidewalks must be shoveled within 24 hours of the cessation of snowfall, clear snow from around fire hydrants that are near your property, check with your neighbors regarding snow removal and direct sump pumps and downspouts away from hard surfaces so that water doesn't build up and freeze, creating slippery conditions on driveways, sidewalks or streets.

Sign up on the Hiawatha website (www.hiawatha-iowa.com) "GET ALERTS" to receive notifications for snow emergencies to your cell phone or email.

City of Hiawatha
 101 Emmons Street
 Hiawatha, Iowa 52233
 Phone: 319-393-1515
 Fax: 319-393-1516
 www.hiawatha-iowa.com

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 02/09/2019**

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Preparing for the 2020 Census

The allocation of more than \$600 billion in federal funding is based on census data. In Iowa, census data determines eligibility for several state funding programs and is the main component to determine Road Use Tax Fund distributions. Needless to say, the census is very important for cities, and cities play a role in ensuring that census counts are accurate. In the last year, Hiawatha has reviewed and updated address listings and boundary borders to help ensure the U.S. Census Bureau is using the most current information possible.

Census 2020 officially begins April 1, 2020, until then it is important for us to begin increasing awareness and to motivate residents to respond. When receiving census request information to complete or when a person from the Complete Count Committee knocks on your door to encourage our citizens to kindly respond.

Census 2020's primary goal is to count everyone once, only once, and in the right place.

2020 Operational Schedule

Key Operational Milestones

Date	Activity
Jan-18	Regional Census Center Opens (Chicago, IL)
Jan-19 2019	Open Area Census Offices (Field Offices)
Aug-19	Complete County Committee Active
Feb-20	Begin In-Field Address Canvassing
End of March 2020	Group Quarters Operations Begin
End of March-July 2020	Self-Responses
	Field Enumeration (In selected Areas)
1-Apr-20	2020 Census Day!
Late April-August 2020	Conduct Nonresponses Follow-Up (NRFU)
Aug-20	Complete NRFU
31-Dec-20	Deliver Apportionment Counts to President
31-Mar-21	Deliver Redistricting Counts to State

City Directory

Main Phone: 319-393-1515

Mayor:

Bill Bennett X525
 mayor@hiawatha-iowa.com

Council Members:

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Dennis Norton
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Dick Olson
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Rob Archibald
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Steve Dodson
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Finance Director:
 Cindy Kudrna X522
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Park & Recreation Director:
 Kelly Willadsen X251
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Community Development Director:
 Patrick Parsley X229
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City Engineer:
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Water Superintendent:
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Fire Chief:
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Library Director
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