Case Studies

Selection and Distribution
This guidebook explains the importance of managing access near major roadway intersections by detailing actual examples from across the state. The case studies were chosen from a list of potential locations suggested by the Iowa Department of Transportation project advisory committee and input from the research staff at the Institute for Transportation (InTrans) at Iowa State University. The selected case studies represent both good and poor examples of access management in practice. They cover a wide variety of land use situations and community sizes and characteristics from locations across Iowa.

Format
In all, eleven case studies are detailed in this guidebook. In addition to a detailed inventory of the physical characteristics of each location, such as roadway/driveway configurations and area land use, investigation of these case studies included analysis of traffic operations and crash data. Each case study includes:

- a description of the broader community characteristics;
- a description of the specific case study “intersection” area, including roadway types and traffic volumes;
- a description of basic roadway geometrics and the location of access points in the area;
- a description of local land uses and business types;
- a description of any unique characteristics of the case study;
- a summary of positive and negative aspects of the access treatments, or lack thereof, at the case study location, including analysis of crashes indicative of access-related safety concerns; and
- a diagram of the case study location overlaid on aerial photography, which includes details of local roadway and land use characteristics.

The locations of case studies are not specifically identified. This has been done purposefully. Invariably, all cases contain examples of both good and poor access management practices. The case studies are provided to help identify typical state of the practice in Iowa in terms of access management. Photos of locations may be several years old, as they were chosen to provide examples of good and poor practice. This, in turn, helps develop more formal approaches for access management.