

# Hawthorne Elementary School, Keokuk, Iowa

## Project Description

The Keokuk Community School District asked Shoemaker & Haaland to conduct a traffic study to determine ways to improve pedestrian safety at Hawthorne Elementary School. Shoemaker & Haaland's study outlined several design alternatives, each of which combined traffic calming, pedestrian facility expansion, regulatory signage, and vehicle circulation improvements to achieve a safer environment for children during dismissal time. The school district's task force and the school board chose an option which called for complete reconstruction and expansion of the existing parking lot.



Shoemaker & Haaland was able to fast track the final design, allowing construction to occur during the summer of 2009, so that the improvements would be in place for the 2009-2010 school year.

## Project Features

- New vehicular entrance with traffic calming design elements
- Regulatory signage to minimize conflicting movements between pedestrians and vehicles
- Expansion of passenger loading zone and delineation with pavement markings
- Redesign of vehicular circulation patterns to minimize the need to “back up” and to decrease traffic congestion
- Widening of existing sidewalks and placement of textured pavement to provide comfort zone for foot and bicycle traffic
- Designed to allow future sidewalk extension
- Special placement of new lighting to increase pedestrian visibility and improve nighttime pedestrian security

