

***Map Locator: Restaurants, Hotels, Food Establishments***  
**Department of Inspections and Appeals**  
**Food and Consumer Safety Bureau**  
**Concept Paper**  
**Presented to lowAccess Advisory Council**  
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Goal: Provide online maps to the general public that contain markers indicating the locations of food establishments licensed by the Food and Consumer Safety Bureau of the Department of Inspections and Appeals. More than 17,000 restaurants, hotels, motels, grocery stores, and convenience stores would be included in the new mapping system. As an example, refer to the “Map Locator for Restaurants Mock-up” included as an attachment to this request.

Also, the enhanced system would allow establishments to renew their licenses and pay their fees online.

Project Purpose: The purpose of this project is to increase public access to information about restaurants, hotels, grocery stores, and related facilities in a graphical map-based display by leveraging existing mapping technology and expertise.

The new system would provide information about each of the food establishments utilizing data that currently resides in the Food and Consumer Safety Bureau database. In addition, individual establishments with a secured login would have the option to enter limited information about their facility such as web site address, email address, hours of operation, and/or specialties, if any.

This application would leverage previously developed and deployed technology services including:

- Google Mapping Service
- State’s Self registration for security credentials (Enterprise A & A)
- State’s ePayment System

The Google Mapping Service is a free web-based service for mapping things that exist in a specific geography – a state, a city, zip code, or an area within a specified radius of a requested address.

The new system would leverage the built-in security to allow establishments to renew their licenses online.

Background: In FY2005 an online system to manage licensing and registration of restaurants, hotel, grocery stores, and other facilities that prepare and/or serve food was developed and implemented. This system is available for use by the general public and the food establishments. Currently, the data is presented for specific facilities in a text-based format.

Through the current web site, visitors learn more about:

- The inspection process used for food establishments across the state
- Who to contact with licensing or complaint questions
- How to obtain a copy of a recent food inspection report.

Visitors may also view or download a copy of Iowa's Food Code, as well as other state rules and regulations governing restaurants, grocery stores, convenience stores, food processing plants, and hotels, among other establishment types.

Providing a graphical geospatial display in an upgraded system will greatly enhance the use and effectiveness of this web site. The new system will answer questions like: "Show a map of the locations of Restaurants within 2 miles of the address entered."

Request: This is a request for planning funds only to analyze the current business processes and current system, determine specifications and requirements of the new system, prepare a cost estimate to build and deploy the new system, and create a project plan.

The amount need for planning is \$10,500

Cost Avoidance: An enhanced system will reduce staff hours required to process applications for license renewals, reduce printing, mailing and postage expense, and decrease paperwork for food establishments. When fully implemented and adopted, an estimated 50% of the establishments will take advantage of online registration and ePayment system. Therefore, manual intervention would potentially be reduced or eliminated for approximately 8,500 (50%) renewal licenses every year.

Interested Parties: Parties interested in this project include the following:

Department of Inspections and Appeals  
Department of Revenue  
County Health Departments  
Homeland Security  
Public Safety

Some of the Recipients of this Service:

Citizens – local and tourists  
Food Establishment Owners and Managers  
Food and Consumer Safety Bureau of DIA