

Iowa Great Places Endorsed and/or Funded Projects

Current as of 1/1/2023

The Iowa Great Places Citizen Advisory Board annually reviews and endorses projects taking place as part of an Iowa Great Place community's vision. Endorsed projects are eligible to receive scoring increases from other State of Iowa programs. Interested applicants to other State of Iowa programs should review this list to see if their project qualifies for Iowa Great Places scoring increases.

Eligible Endorsement Period	Designated Great Place	Project Title	City	County	Grant Award	Project Description
January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025	Boone Forks (2019)	Interpretive Signage & River's Edge Discovery Center Exhibits	Fort Dodge	Webster	\$300,000	Project funding will be used for interpretive signage highlighting the region's three state designated water trails and links to cultural and recreational assets. Grant funds will also fund the construction of permanent exhibits within the new River's Edge Discovery Center, a 13,000 sq. ft. conservation education center located in the Central River District at the confluence of the Des Moines River and Soldier Creek.
January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025	Cedar County (2018)	Hardacre Theater Restoration	Tipton	Cedar	\$348,700	Cedar County received a total award of \$348,700, which includes a construction planning grant and challenge matching grant for the renovations of the Hardacre Theater, a community icon in downtown Tipton that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025	Indianola (2020)	Wonder on Buxton	Indianola	Warren	\$73,300	Project funding will make possible new sculptural installations and improvements along Buxton Street, which connects Simpson College to Indianola's Downtown Square, creating a vibrant vibrant area inviting visitors and celebrating Indianola's cultural identity.

January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025	Turkey River Recreational Corridor (2022)	Motor Mill Inn Revival: Accommodating Travelers Past & Present	Elkader	Clayton	\$328,000	Project funding will support the renovation and rehabilitation of the Motor Mill Historic Site. The project goals are to protect the Inn from flooding, return the historic structure to its original state, provide meeting rooms and overnight accommodations for travelers, and house a small visitor center for historic and cultural education purposes.
January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025	Van Buren County (2018)	Odd Fellows Hall Structural Repairs and Masonry Restoration	Keosauqua	Van Buren	\$0	This project endorsement will focus on structural and masonry repairs to the Odd Fellows Hall within the Bentonsport Historic District. The Odd Fellows Hall is a critical piece of Van Buren County's local character and authentic quality and contributes to their local sense of place.
July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2025	City of Manning (2019)	Art is Refreshing Murals and Art Themed Events	Manning	Carroll	\$0	This project endorsement will focus on mural components of the Art is Refreshing Project which include public art in key places to enhance the visual identity of the community to visitors and residents, and to encourage more interaction with downtown, parks, and community which include several mural installations and art-themed events
October 16, 2021 – December 31, 2024	City of Charles City (2019)	Relocation and Renovation of the Historic Railroad Depot	Charles City	Floyd	\$150,000	This project will renovate a 107-year-old historic railroad depot following its relocation to a new site. The renovated depot will serve as a trailhead for the Charley Western Railway, a venue for meetings and a gateway to a future railroad museum.
October 16, 2021 – December 31, 2024	Clive Greenbelt (2019)	Greenbelt Landing	Clive	Polk	\$75,000	Part of a multiphase project which includes the construction of a wetland walkway, renovation of a community center, the Clive Greenbelt will be enhanced by new artwork, an outdoor performance space and landmarks that reference the city's past – all along the recreational trail that connects to other amenities and a historic waterway.

October 16, 2021 - December 31, 2024	City of Lake View (2019)	Lake View Community Center	Lake View	Sac	\$250,000	Project funding will build a new community center to replace a beloved historic ballroom that closed almost 20 years ago. Community leaders envision a venue for social and business functions, as well as a flourishing cultural hub through a partnership with the Lake View Arts Council.
October 16, 2021 - December 31, 2024	City of Manning (2019)	Art is Refreshing	Manning	Carroll	\$50,000	Project funding will honor the community's history and agricultural heritage by creating a new gateway sculpture and interactive art installation at Trestle Park
October 16, 2021 - December 31, 2024	City of Manning (2019)	Housing Initiatives	Manning	Carroll	\$0	This project endorsement will focus on housing initiatives identified in Manning's Great Places visioning plan and city comprehensive plan. Housing initiatives include utilizing the Homes for Iowa program, owner-occupied rehabilitation and first-time homebuyers assistance, workforce housing, and converting upper stories downtown into usable housing spaces.
October 16, 2021 - December 31, 2024	City of Manning (2019)	Trail Development	Manning	Carroll	\$0	This project endorsement will focus on trail development initiatives and projects identified in Manning's Great Places visioning plan and 2012 Master Trail Plan. Identified trail segments include those in connection to the hospital, Great Western Park, Safe Routes to School south trail and others.
October 16, 2021 - December 31, 2024	City of Marshalltown (2019)	Marshalltown Arts & Civic Center - Phase 1 Renovation	Marshalltown	Marshall	\$350,000	Funding will support the phase 1 renovation of the Marshalltown Arts & Civic Center. This anchor facility will serve as a statewide attraction, a local cultural anchor and a catalyst for the development of the Linn Creek District, which will tie together sports and recreation opportunities, new housing and reinvigorated businesses.

October 16, 2021 - December 31, 2024	City of West Union (2019)	Gateway to Recreation: West Union to Echo Valley State Park Trail	West Union	Fayette	\$75,000	The West Union to Echo Valley State Park Trail project will connect cultural and artistic venues and open up opportunities for environmental education. The project plan includes an art station and pavilion, along with public artwork along a portion of the trail.
January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2023	Cedar County (2018)	Cedar County Cultural Center at Prairie Village	Tipton	Cedar	\$0	This project will build the new Cedar County Cultural Center at Prairie Village, a much-needed location for people to gather for community entertainment and cultural events and will celebrate and promote the County's artists and craftspeople.
January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2023	Cedar Valley (2019)	Building a Connection to the Rivers	Waterloo	Black Hawk	\$150,000	Funding will enhance the gateway sections of the Cedar River Water Trail at the Gateway Park in downtown Cedar Falls and the Waterloo Marina site in downtown Waterloo.
January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2023	Cedar-Wapsi Recreational Byway (2019)	Amazing Trails for an Amazing Space	Cedar Rapids	Linn	\$0	This multi-year project at the Indian Creek Nature Center will provide an enhanced experience, increased accessibility, and greater opportunities for both outdoor recreation and environmental and science education through the purchase of land, development of new trails, installation of wayfinding signage and trail amenities.
January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2023	City of Grinnell (2019)	Grinnell Veterans Memorial Building Campaign - Prairie Star Veteran Artist Residency	Grinnell	Poweshiek	\$300,000	Funding will support the remodel of the Grinnell Veterans Memorial Building into a space to house an artist residency program, which will complete the improvements to the Central Park area.
January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2023	City of Mason City (2019)	Willow Creek Riverwalk	Mason City	Cerro Gordo	\$150,000	Funding will support creating functional, inviting spaces along Willow Creek between S Delaware Ave/US Highway 65 and 2nd Street SW that highlight the natural gateway and connect residents and visitors to the expanding amenities downtown.

January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2023	City of Perry (2018)	Frog Creek Greenbelt Restoration	Perry	Dallas	\$0	The project seeks to safely connect both sides of Pattee Park and enhance Frog Creek by building a new pedestrian bridge, adding trail connections on the east and west side of the bridge, and an area for loading and unloading into the community band shell.
January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2023	City of Sioux City (2019)	Chris Larsen Park Redevelopment Project	Sioux City	Woodbury	\$400,000	Funding will enhance an area along the Sioux City riverfront by supporting the construction of the Floyd Pavilion, Plaza and Overlook, the west overlook, east picnic shelter and development of land to the Floyd River.
January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2023	Van Buren County (2018)	Van Buren County Parks and Outdoors Recreation Enhancement	Keosauqua	Van Buren	\$0	This project will make improvements to the Lake Sugema Recreation area, Bentonsport Riverside park, repairs to one of the few remaining Odd Fellows Halls and repairs to the replica Morris cabin in Morris Park.
January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2023	City of West Union (2019)	Project Name Gateway to Recreation: West Union to Echo Valley State Park Trail	West Union	Fayette	\$0	This project will construct a new trail connecting the City of West Union, Iowa and Echo Valley State Park. The project will connect this beautiful and progressive community and its renowned “green” streetscape with the State Park, which teems with natural beauty and pristine cold water trout streams.