



12TH AVENUE/RUST BELT IMPROVEMENTS
DowntownEastMoline.com

Greater Downtown East Moline Revitalization Project

CONNECT. Big plans are underway to create a more beautiful, walkable, and bike-friendly Greater Downtown East Moline, seamlessly connecting 15th Avenue, the Rust Belt, and The Bend.

GROW. This project serves as a catalyst for endless possibilities and opportunities for growth.

THRIVE. Together, we will craft a more vibrant, thriving community by creating an environment where residents and businesses can flourish.

Proposed improvements are underway with public meetings being held in 2024, each covering a different portion of Greater Downtown. A meeting to discuss the extension of Bend Boulevard will be held later this year.

Enhancing the Rust Belt

WITH SAFETY & CONNECTIVITY IN MIND

The Rust Belt area is a key asset in our community, known for its vibrant restaurants, entertainment venues, and unique character that residents and visitors alike enjoy. However, the Rust Belt has lacked bike and pedestrian connections to the riverfront and 15th Avenue/Main Street. Proposed improvements aim to address these gaps, creating cohesive community branding and improving accessibility. A key focus is on overcoming the challenges posed by the existing railroad crossings, which have been a significant barrier to connectivity. Enhancing these crossings and making them safer and more accessible is a major part of this effort.

Proposed improvements at the Rust Belt include a full reconstruction of 12th Avenue between 1st and 7th Streets, a new bike and pedestrian path, and significant enhancements to railroad crossings to improve safety and accessibility. Traffic-calming features, improved intersections at 3rd and 7th Streets, increased street lighting, and landscaping will make the area even more inviting, while new wayfinding signs and cohesive streetscaping will strengthen connections from East Moline's downtown core to the riverfront.

These improvements will create a more connected, safer community asset, fostering economic growth and enhancing the overall quality of life for residents and visitors.



A new pedestrian access point will connect the shops and venue at the Rust Belt with a multi-use path along 12th Avenue.



The project is funded, in part, through a **\$23.7 million federal RAISE grant.**



Rust Belt Improvements: WHAT'S PLANNED?

→ Complete Reconstruction of 12th Avenue

The heart of this project involves the full reconstruction of 12th Avenue between 1st and 7th Streets. This will include streetscaping enhancements to beautify the area, creating an inviting atmosphere for residents and visitors.

→ New Bike and Pedestrian Path

A new bike and pedestrian path will be constructed along 7th Street and 12th Avenue. This path is designed to better connect the Rust Belt area to the downtown core at 15th Avenue/Main Street and the riverfront, encouraging more foot traffic and making the area more accessible.

→ Upgraded Railroad Crossings

The proposed designs include significant improvements to the railroad crossings, making them safer and more accessible for pedestrians.

+ **3rd Street Crossing:** The crossing will be widened to accommodate a relocated sidewalk separated from vehicle traffic. Additional features include detectable warning surfaces, new pavement markings, and warning signage.

+ **7th Avenue Crossing:** The sidewalk on the west side will be replaced with a 10-foot multi-use path, new pedestrian warning signals and gates, fresh pavement markings and signage, detectable warning surfaces, and electronic audible warnings for added pedestrian safety.

→ Traffic-Calming Features

To create a more pedestrian- and bike-friendly environment, traffic-calming features will be installed along 12th Avenue. These measures include narrowed travel lanes and additional landscaping to help reduce vehicle speeds and encourage people to explore the area on foot or by bike.

→ Improved Intersections at 7th and 3rd Streets

The intersections at 12th Avenue and 7th Street and 12th Avenue and 3rd Street will be expanded to include three lanes, with dedicated left-turn lanes and relocated sidewalks. These improvements will enhance traffic flow and pedestrian safety.

→ Wayfinding and Streetscaping

New wayfinding signs and additional streetscaping elements will be installed to create a clear and cohesive connection between 15th Avenue, the Rust Belt, The Bend, and the riverfront. These enhancements will make it easier for residents and visitors to navigate and enjoy all that the area has to offer.

→ Improved Access to Transit

A new bike and pedestrian path along 12th Avenue will improve access to existing MetroLINK bus service throughout Greater Downtown as well as the planned Channel Cat dock at The Bend.

→ Increased Street Lighting

Additional street lighting will be installed, enhancing both safety and ambiance.

*East
Moline,*
**WE NEED
YOUR
INPUT!**

We value your thoughts and ideas on the proposed improvements to the Rust Belt area.

Learn more and share your thoughts at
DowntownEastMoline.com/RustBeltArea.

BRANDING OUR GREATER DOWNTOWN

From highlighting our cultural diversity to embracing the historic charm of our architecture, we're designing downtown features that reflect the spirit of East Moline. View the latest designs and share your thoughts at DowntownEastMoline.com/community-branding.

2025

The Bend
Streetscaping

15th Avenue –
Phase I

2026

Rust Belt area –
12th Avenue
& 7th Street

15th Avenue –
Phase II

2027

Bend Blvd
Extension

**Construction
Targets**