

2025 Main Street Challenge Grants

Community	Location	Grant Amount	Local Match	Total Project Cost	Description
Cedar Falls	115–119 Main St.	\$100,000	\$509,883	\$609,883	The Black Hawk Hotel, a downtown landmark, will undergo phased restoration to preserve its historic character while better serving modern travelers. Improvements include roof repairs, window replacements and first-floor room upgrades.
Corning	624 Davis Ave.	\$100,000	\$437,520	\$537,520	This project will rehabilitate a historic building to house a health-focused grocery store, addressing local demand for fresh, wellness-oriented foods. The project will create new jobs and serve as a model for improving food access in rural communities.
Elkader	107 S. Main St.	\$100,000	\$120,000	\$220,000	A prominent building will be restored to reverse a 1991 remodel that altered its historic storefront. The project will enhance the exterior appearance, highlighting the building's cultural importance, and strengthen the vitality of the downtown district.
Guthrie Center	312 State St.	\$50,000	\$70,000	\$120,000	This project will restore a vacant historic building with a renewed brick façade, new windows and doors, updated systems and a refreshed interior. The finished space will be ready for a future tenant, supporting reinvestment and renewed activity in the downtown core.
Manning	721 Third St.	\$100,000	\$137,200	\$237,200	Following a full interior renovation that brought new businesses to the space, this second phase will repair the building's deteriorated exterior and add a daylit basement apartment. Specialized masonry work will ensure the building's historic character is preserved.
Oskaloosa	121 N. Market St.	\$100,000	\$578,390	\$678,390	This first phase of a larger revitalization effort includes roof replacement and second-floor rehabilitation to create three new upper-level housing units. Future plans will add more residential and commercial space as well as indoor and outdoor gathering areas.
Washington	115–117 N. Iowa Ave.	\$100,000	\$198,039	\$298,039	Phase one will restore the ground floor for an architecture office and repair the building's exterior, including masonry, windows, cornice and storefront. This work reactivates a historic space damaged by fire and sets the foundation for additional improvements.
Waverly	123 E. Bremer Ave.	\$100,000	\$315,000	\$415,000	This project will convert 2,904 square feet of vacant second-floor space into two modern, two-bedroom market-rate apartments. Adding quality downtown housing will increase foot traffic, support local businesses and contribute to a more active environment.
West Branch	104½ and 106 E. Main St.	\$100,000	\$109,412	\$209,412	This project will upgrade The Honey Den candy store and Main Street Sweets with exterior improvements and a redesigned outdoor gathering deck, creating a more welcoming destination as tourism grows. Also, an interior remodel at The Honey Den will improve layout and efficiency.
West Union	114 E. Elm St.	\$100,000	\$172,103	\$272,103	This project will rehabilitate a vacant historic building into a mixed-use property with a first-floor commercial space and a second-floor apartment. The investment supports job creation, adds much-needed housing and encourages additional downtown investment.
Total		\$950,000	\$2,647,547	\$3,597,547	