

# Community Workshop

CHESTNUT



COMPLETE

STREETS

WALNUT



# Why are we here today?

1. Overview
2. Project Location
3. Project Purpose
4. What is the Complete Streets Project?
5. Why is this important?
6. Have other communities done this?
7. How are we paying for this?
8. What we need from you today?



# Downtown Rockford Complete Streets

## Overview – Downtown Rockford

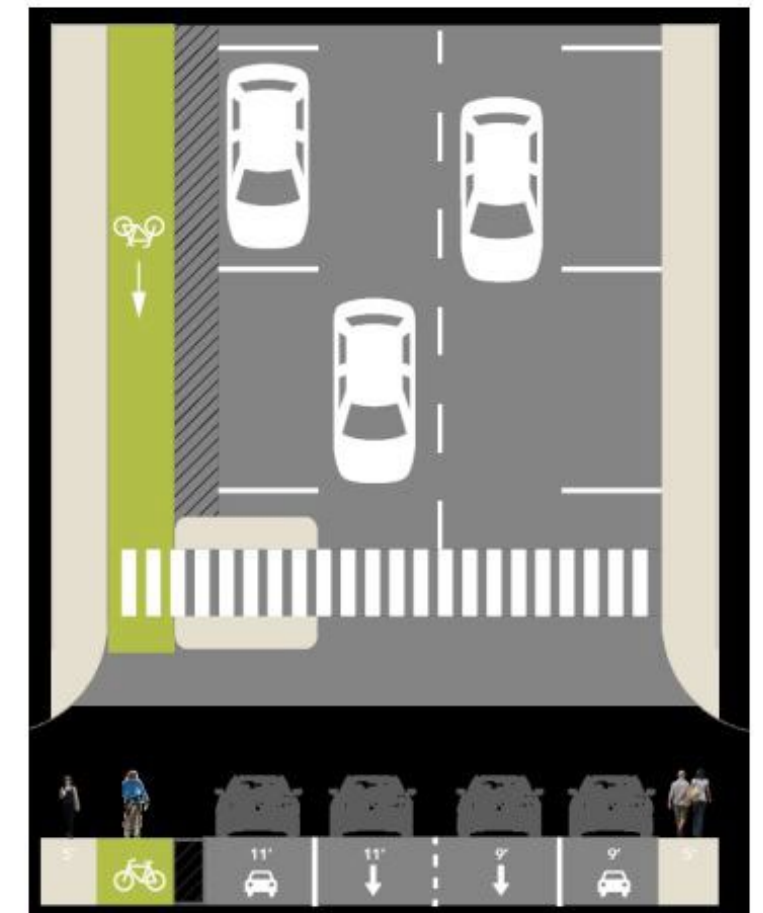
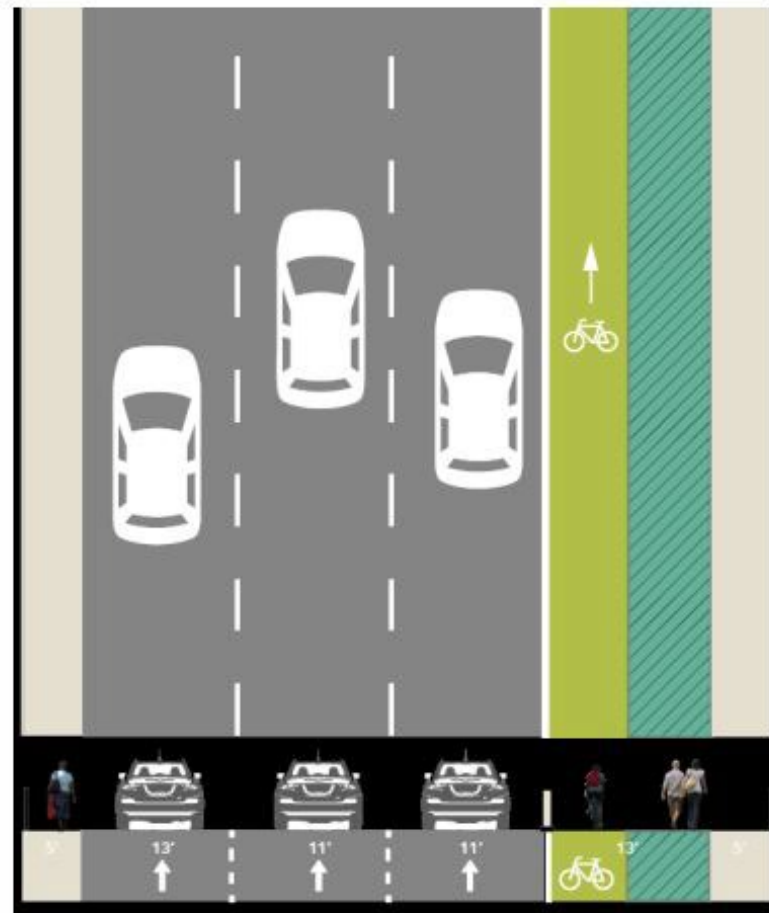
### Strategic Action Plan (Dec. 2015)

- Strategic Vision to guide policy for continued revitalization of the downtown area.
- Align land use, transportation, and urban design implementation strategies.
- Benefit the overall growth and development of the City of Rockford.

**Strategy 1:** Reduce travel lanes on State Street bridge to one in each direction.

**Strategy 2:** Reduce travel lanes on Chestnut/Walnut and Jefferson, add separated bike facilities & on-street parking.

Road Diet Diagrams

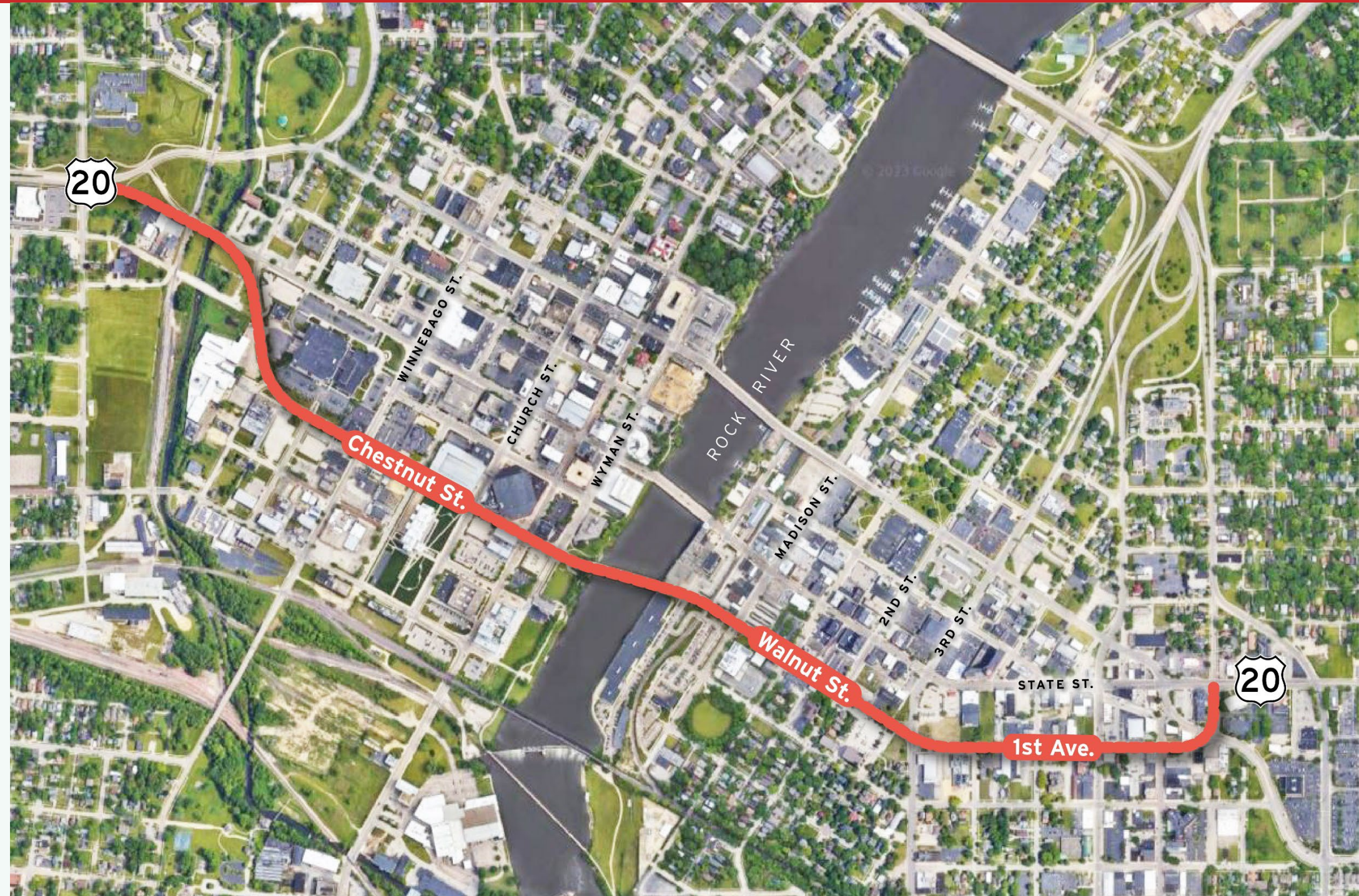




# Downtown Rockford Complete Streets

## Overview

The Illinois Department of Transportation has received **\$16,384,905 of RAISE** (Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity) funds for this Downtown Complete Streets Revitalization Project. RAISE is a federal grant program, which funds transportation projects that create high-quality jobs, improve safety, protect the environment, and generate equitable economic opportunities.

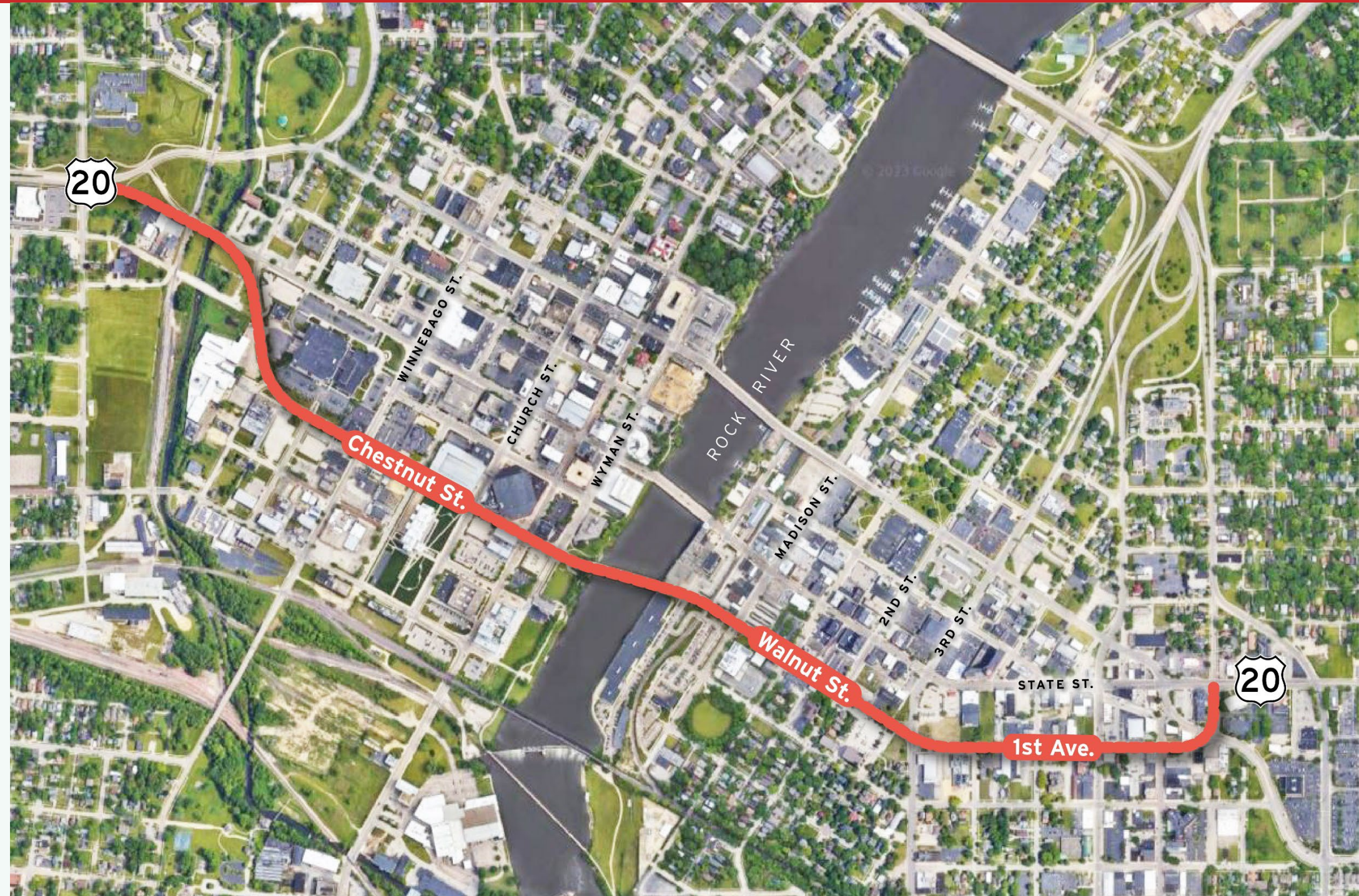




# Downtown Rockford Complete Streets

## Location

The Rockford Complete Streets Revitalization Project is a multi-phase project. The **first phase** of the improvement, and the phase we are here to talk about today is **along US Business 20 (EB) from West State Street to East State Street** for a distance of a little more than 1.5 miles.

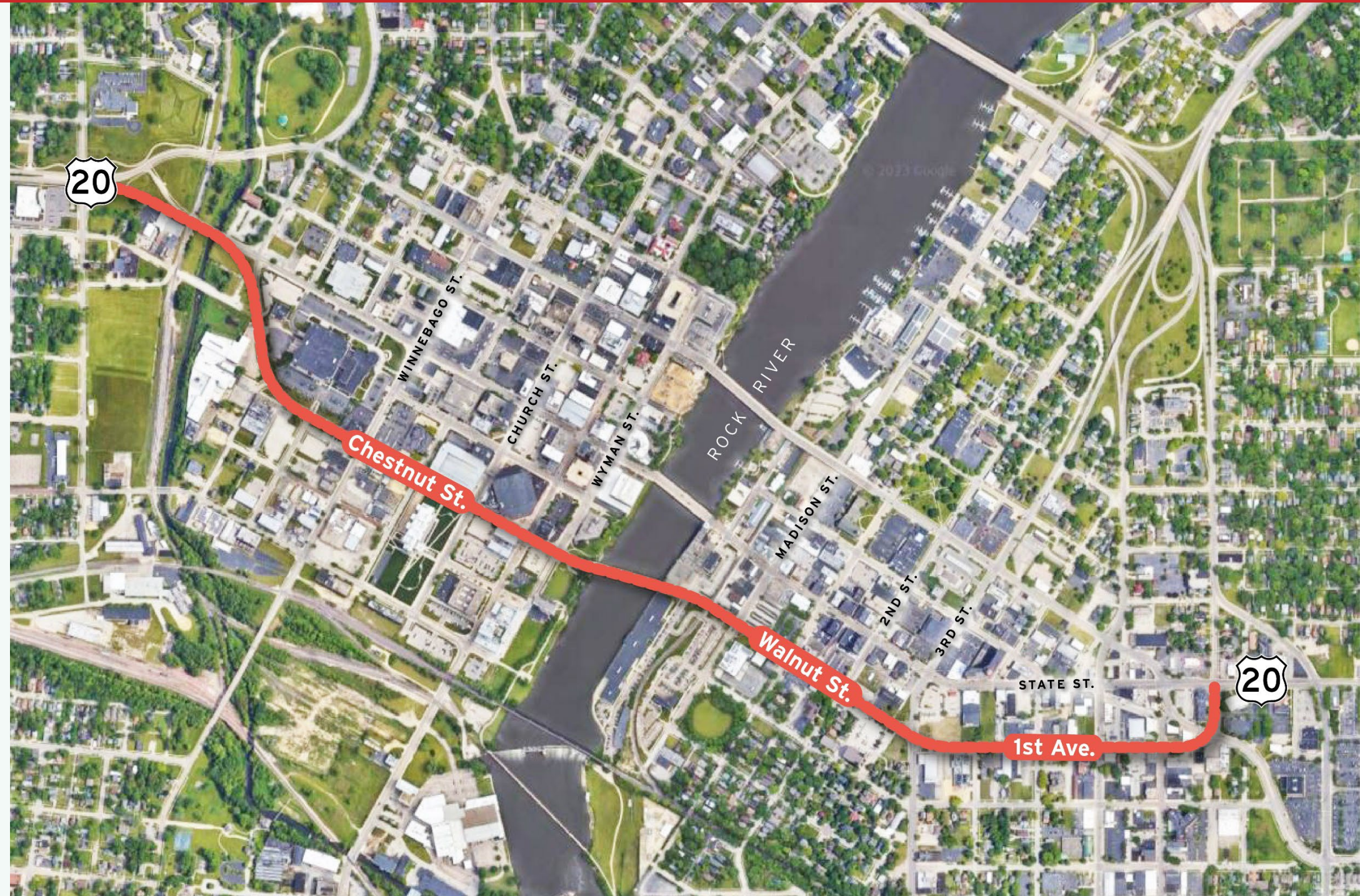




# Downtown Rockford Complete Streets

## Purpose

The purpose of the project is to **enhance the quality of life** for the citizens of the City of Rockford by **increasing the safety** in the corridor for vehicular traffic, pedestrians, and bicyclists. The project will provide investment and innovation to downtown Rockford.

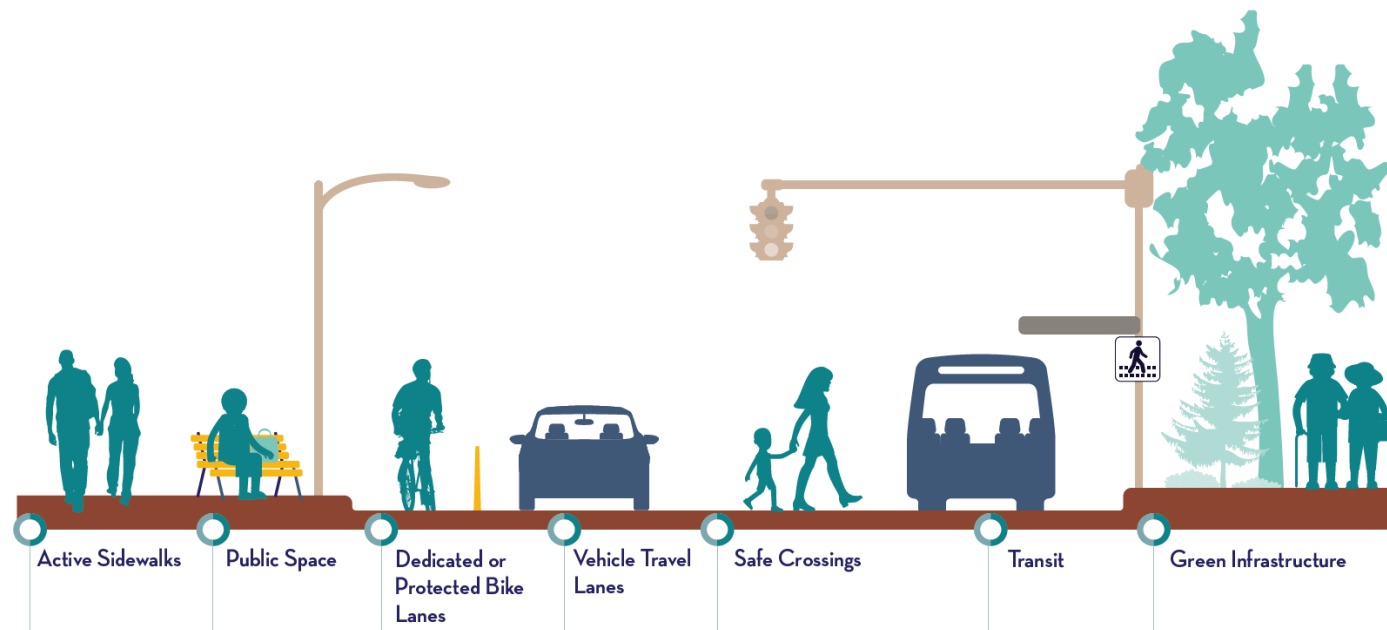




# COMPLETE STREETS

A Complete Streets project is an approach to planning, designing, building, operating and maintaining streets that enables safe access for all people who need to use them, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities.

This project proposes to reduce the number of EB travel lanes to two along Chestnut and Walnut Street. This roadway reduction will allow for the addition of a bi-directional bike path as well as continuous sidewalks.





Before





After

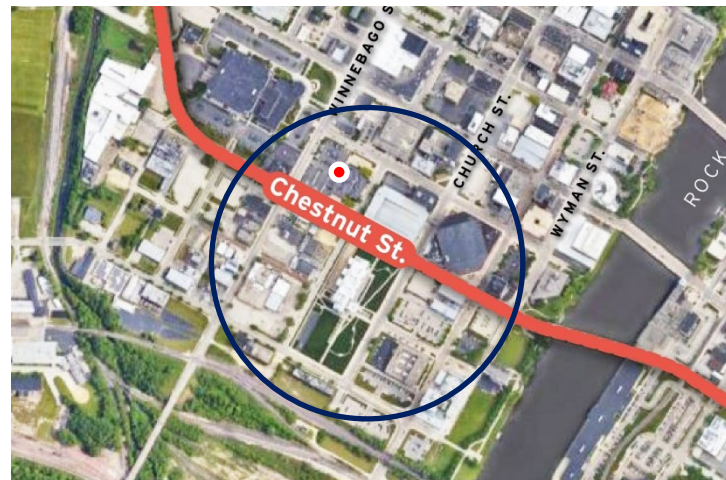
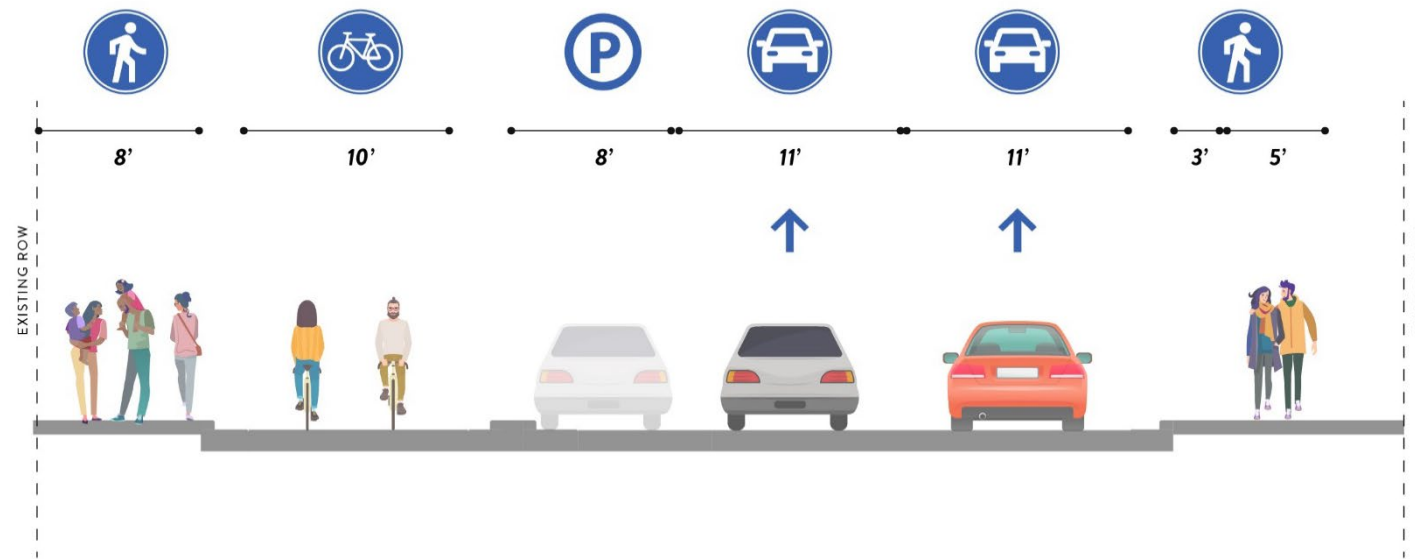




# Downtown Rockford Complete Streets

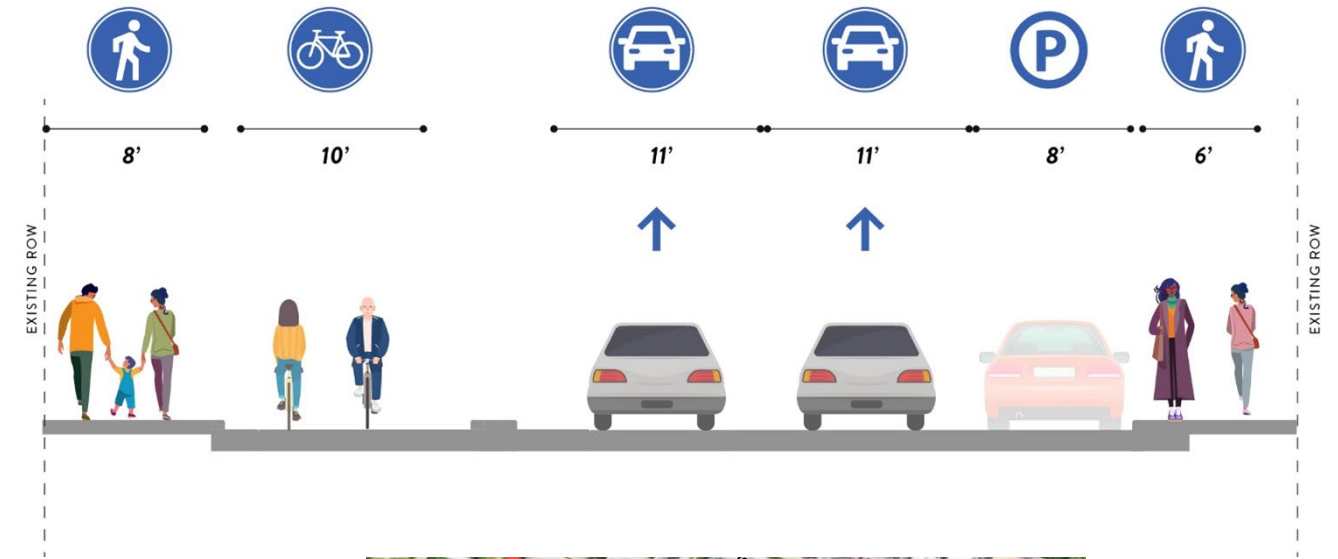
## Section A-A

Rockford Housing Authority – looking east



## Section B-B

Between Winnebago St. & Court St. - looking east

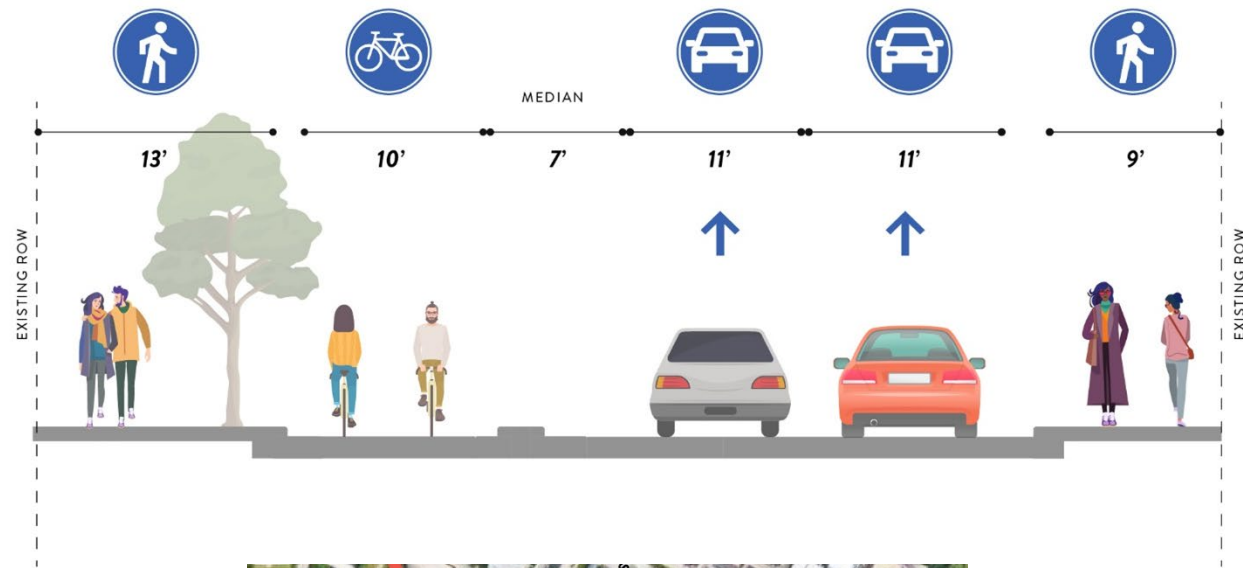




# Downtown Rockford Complete Streets

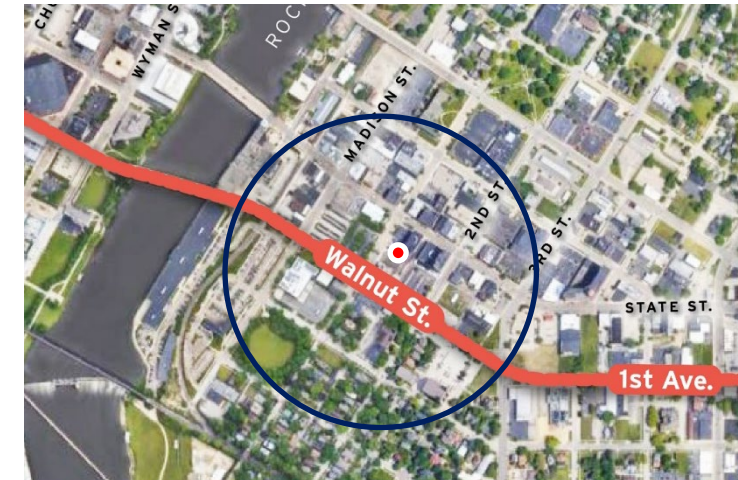
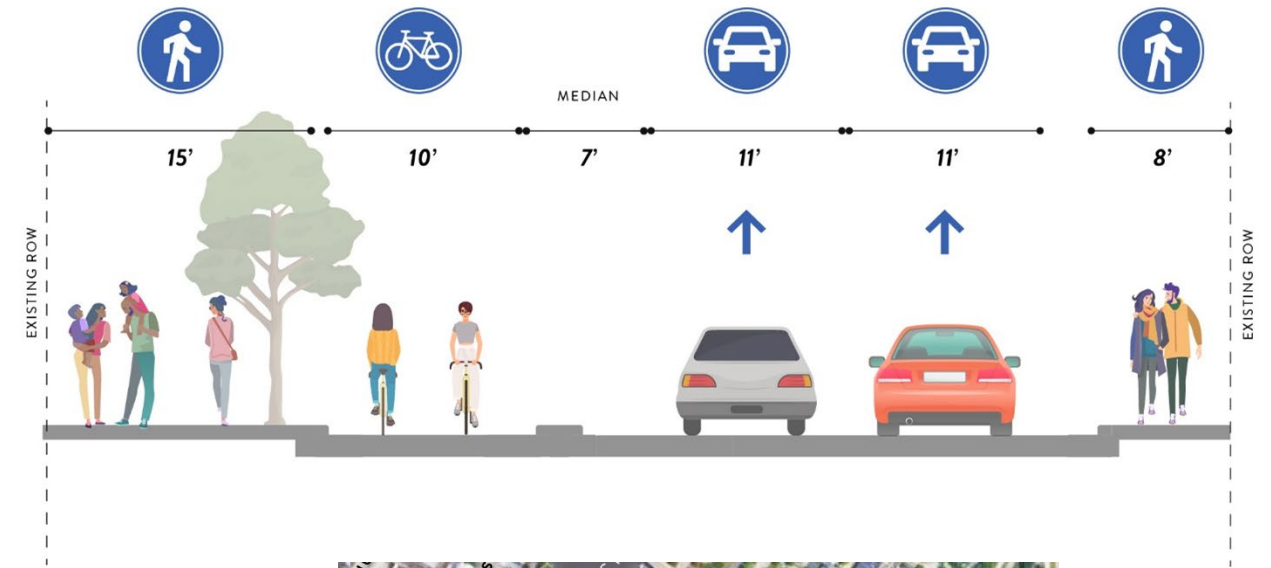
## Section C-C

Between Church St and Main St – looking east



## Section D-D

Between 1<sup>st</sup> St. & 2<sup>nd</sup> St. - looking east





# Why is this important?

The City of Rockford is committed to developing **a safe, efficient, accessible, and integrated multi-modal transportation network** that balances the need and desire for access, mobility, economic development, and aesthetics while providing for the **health and well-being for people of all ages**.

Multi-modal enhancements implemented by the proposed project will provide residents, visitors, patients, students, and employees with **improved access to the essential services and amenities throughout downtown**. This includes but is not limited to jobs, health care, social services, educational institutions, and recreational/cultural amenities. **Active infrastructure**, associated with overall improvements in physical and social health, are woven into the project as well.

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Safety

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Integrated

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Multi-  
modal

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Activity

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Economic

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Access

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Development

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# Why is this important?

Most importantly are the populations that the project will impact. An overwhelming majority of citizens in the project impact area are categorized as low-income, in addition to the largest share of the population identifying as a person of color. Therefore, the project will **be increasing access to jobs, healthcare, social services, etc. for the most traditionally underserved populations.**

The Downtown Rockford Complete Streets Revitalization Project is a key element that ties together millions of dollars of infrastructure development downtown that continues to attract and support multi-modal transportation into the project area. The awarded RAISE funds would complement an explosion of growth already occurring within downtown Rockford and would leverage this growth for years to come. **Since 2001, over \$1 Billion have been invested** by private and public entities in downtown properties.

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## Jobs & Services

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## Strong Growth

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## \$1 Billion

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## Underserved Communities

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# Have other communities done this before?

Complete streets aim to create a balanced transportation system that accommodates the needs of all users, regardless of age, ability, or mode of transportation. **Over 1,600 communities** have created Complete Streets policies **and 35 states** have as well. While Complete Streets is a process and approach to street design, there is no singular design prescription for Complete Streets.

## Des Moines – Grand Ave.

East Grand Avenue between East 2nd and East 7th Streets in Downtown Des Moines (DSM) underwent a significant change. After extensive planning by the City of Des Moines and other local stakeholders, a pilot project is underway to reorganize this stretch of Grand Avenue into a Complete Street with a goal of being more safe and more accessible for all modes of transportation.





# How are we paying for this?

The estimated total cost to design and construct Phase 1 of the Downtown Rockford Complete Streets Revitalization Project is \$22,364,710. **The total Federal RAISE fund request received is \$16,384,905. For the non-federal match, upon award the City of Rockford is contributing \$2,900,000** from their local Capital Improvement Program, Illinois Department of Transportation is providing \$2,601,076, and Rockford Mass Transit District (RMTD) is contributing \$610,299 from deferred revenue. The City of Rockford is also committed to soliciting private contributions towards the non-federal match but have signed letters committing the full local amount listed if needed.





*We want your thoughts!*

*Thank you for joining us this evening*

