Appendix

- Statistics
### Downtown Statistics

The primary geographical area used in gathering most of the downtown area statistics in this section was the area within 1990 census tract 51 (see Map 2).

#### Population Statistics

- The downtown area has witnessed approximately a 31% increase in population since 1970, while the city of Des Moines has declined by approximately 4%.

- In 1970 the population for the city of Des Moines consisted of 93% white persons, 6% black persons, and 1% persons of a race other than white or black. The downtown area was similar to the city's overall racial composition consisting of 91% white, 8% black, and 1% other. However, in 1990 the city's overall racial composition consisted of 89% white, 7% black, and 4% other, whereas the downtown area was 80% white, 16% black, and 4% other.

- The downtown area has consistently had a high concentration of the elderly population since 1970. The downtown area's percentage of persons 65 years of age and over has basically remained in the mid 20's while the city's overall percentage has remained in the lower teens.
Housing Statistics

- The downtown area has witnessed approximately a 28% increase in total housing units since 1970, while the city of Des Moines has increased by approximately 15%.

- The downtown area has consistently had a high concentration of renter occupied housing units since 1970. The downtown area's percentage of renter occupied housing units has basically remained in the low to mid 80's while the city's overall percentage has remained in the low to mid 30's. However, the city's overall percentage of renter occupied housing units has been steadily increasing, from 32% in 1970 to 36% in 1990.

Income & Poverty Status

- The downtown area is an area with a large concentration of low income residents. The median income for the area is below 50% of the median income for the entire city. The percentage of persons below the poverty level in 1990 was approximately 42% for the downtown area while the percentage for the entire city was approximately 13%.
**Employment Statistics**
- The city of Des Moines has witnessed approximately a 118% increase in employment since 1973. Of the total employment in the city of Des Moines in 1990, 29% was located in the downtown area.

**Assessed Values**
- Since 1990, the Downtown Urban Renewal Areas (see Map 9) have increased in total assessed valuation by approximately 40%.
**Statistics**

**Downtown Skywalk System**
- The Downtown Skywalk System (see Map 10) is approximately 2.5 miles in length with bridges and corridors linking approximately 27 downtown blocks.

- Between 1986 and 1992 the Downtown Skywalk System has grown from 22 segments to 41 segments, and daily pedestrian traffic counts have increased from approximately 72,000 to 149,000.

**Downtown Parking**
- There are approximately 5,500 parking spaces in several public parking ramps, 7,000 spaces in several private parking ramps, and 3,200 metered parking spaces within the downtown area.
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destination DOWNTOWN ... An Action Plan for Iowa's Urban Place