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## **Grimes Business Leaders Envision Historic Downtown “Governors District”**

*Alliance Explores Renovation Ideas to Attract Visitors and Honor Iowa’s Governors*

**Grimes, IA**, March 12, 2009 - Omaha’s famous Old Market....Des Moines’ thriving East Village....Grimes’ Historic “[Governors District](#).” Grimes business and community leaders are envisioning a refurbished downtown that will attract new business and tourism while paying accolades to Iowa’s past and present governors. The [Governor’s District Alliance](#) was created to explore the project and gauge city, business and citizen support.

“The Governor’s District Alliance is a collaboration of people who see amazing potential in Grimes,” says Keith Snow, Governor’s District Alliance Chair and owner of B2E Direct Marketing, Inc. in Grimes. “We want this community to become an Iowa destination.”

The project’s name and theme were inspired by Iowa’s third governor, James W. Grimes, after whom the city is named. The Alliance imagines a 15 to 20 square block area featuring a “Grimes Village” with specialty shops, old-fashioned street lamps and cobblestone crosswalks, a Water Tower Square for festivals and community gatherings and tributes throughout to Iowa’s 41 governors, including a potential Governors Museum.

“We’re in the beginning stages where anything is possible,” says Snow. “For this to work, we’ll need to involve Grimes business owners, residents and city, county and state government. We’re researching state and local economic development programs and grants that might offer financial assistance.”

The Alliance board is made up of six members consisting of business and residents within the proposed district. Grimes residents and business owners are encouraged to contact the Alliance for more information at 515-986-1992 or visit [www.governorsdistrict.org](http://www.governorsdistrict.org).

### **About Grimes**

The [City of Grimes](#) is located northwest of the Des Moines metro, near the interchange of HWY 141 and Interstates 80 and 35. The city’s current population is more than 8,000 and quickly growing. In fact, Grimes has enjoyed a 10% or higher population growth every year since 1970. With excellent schools, expanding neighborhoods and thriving businesses, Grimes is an excellent place to live, work and visit.

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